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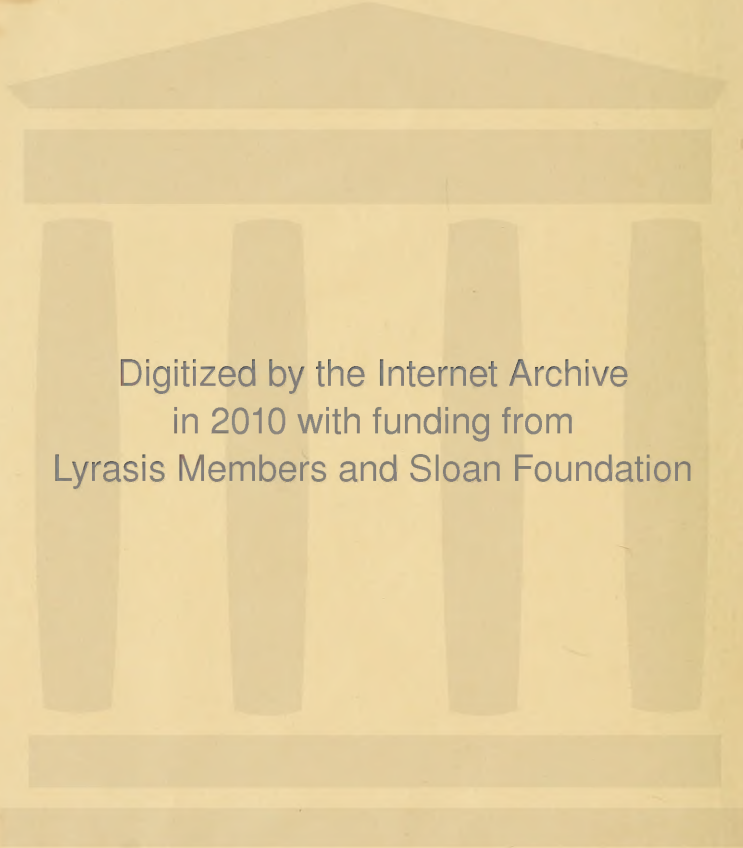
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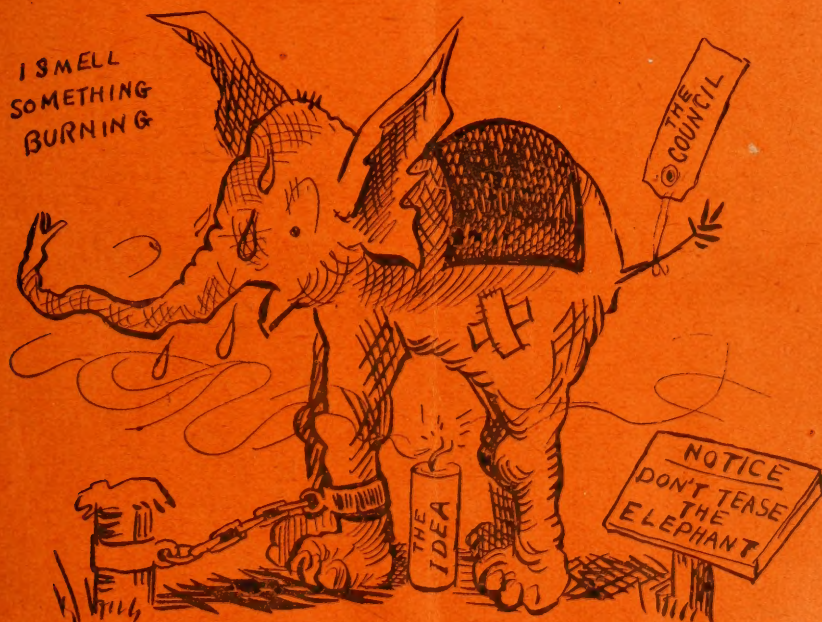
# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

Vol. IV

January 1, 1910.

No. 1



THE CITY HALL RING SMELLS THE  
SMOKE OF IMPENDING BATTLE

FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

BEING SOME SERMONETTES PUBLISHED WEEKLY FOR THE  
COMMON GOOD AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, By ADON A. YODER,  
EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, 904 CAPITOL ST., RICHMOND, VA.

PRINTED AT ANYWHERE.



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51  
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v. 4

## Prizes for Boys---December-January Contest

Ten prizes will be given to the ten boys selling the greatest number of IDEAS in December and January. Prizes were recently given out for the November contest. A handsome watch was the first prize, and first quality stag handle pocket knives were given to the nine boys selling the nine next largest numbers. One boy sold 226 IDEAS in the month, thus making, at 2 cents each, \$4.52 besides the watch.

Selling IDEAS pays the boys well even if they do not secure the first prize.

JEWELER

J. S. JAMES

OPTICIAN

7th AND MAIN STS.

We have in our Fall Stock, and are  
showing special good values in

DIAMONDS, WATCHES, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, CUT GLASS, Etc.

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GOODS DELIVERED ANYWHERE IN THE CITY.



# THE IDEA

*A Sign of the Times*

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VOL. IV

JANUARY 1, 1910

No. 1

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5 CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,  
904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909 at the Post Office at Richmond, Va.

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## Lynch-Law and Mayor Richardson

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The Times-Dispatch, in an article to-day, December 28th, calls the lynching at Hurley, in Buchanan County, "The State's Disgrace" and "a black blot on the State's reputation," and starts off by saying that "Virginia's fine record for observance and respect for the law has been broken." Now, THE IDEA thoroughly agrees with this sentiment of respect for law and frowning down disregard for law and, of course, the gross crime of lynch-law, but we have no respect for a paper that is so cowardly as to condemn disregard for the law in Buchanan, but uphold it in Richmond by refusing to expose it or sanction the exposure of it right under its own nose. We have no respect for a paper that will condemn the sovereign people way off in Buchanan, hundreds of miles from Richmond, and where that paper has almost no circulation, for taking the law in their own hands and yet will not condemn a public servant in its own town who openly violates his oath of office and takes the law into his own hands, not in passion and the heat of the moment, but deliberately and knowingly, and weakly says that he, a servant of the people appointed by the people to carry out their law, should not regard that oath but should refuse to execute the law whenever *he* thought best so to do.

Mayor Richardson of Richmond, a lawyer, an ex-Common-

wealth's Attorney, and now Chief Executive of this city, is encouraging lawlessness in this State by daily disregarding the laws of the State which he has sworn to execute.

The Liquor-Selling-on-Sunday Law is violated every Sunday and he knows all about it. The selling-without-a-license laws are violated every day by those who enjoy especial protection from the Mayor and his executive department, and he knows all about it. The laboring-at-a-trade-on-Sunday law is openly violated every Sunday by hosts of merchants who claim that Sunday is their biggest day, and the Mayor knows all about it. The house-of-ill-fame law is openly violated every hour of every day under the especial protection of his police department, and he knows all about it. All these violations have been forcefully brought to his attention and to the attention of the Commonwealth's Attorney both publicly and privately by the editor of this paper and he has no excuse for refusing to do the will, the law, of the people who elected him just for that purpose.

THE IDEA claims that the people, who are sovereign in the democratic State of Virginia, have much more right to take the law into their own hands than any servant of the people has, for the people are the rulers and the law is their creature, while the Mayor is simply a creature and servant of the law and under the law, in a double sense. The order is this: The People, The Law, The Servants of the Law. And who will dare say that the people who make the law have not more right to set it aside than the servants who are made by that law. Yet the Richmond Times-Dispatch, "Supreme in Virginia," condemns the people for taking the law into their own hands and refuses to raise a voice in condemnation of a petty servant, who, by his acts, is bringing not only disgrace on the city, but what is far worse, bringing into contempt our democratic institutions and bringing about a reign of crime and disregard for all law and order.

Norfolk used to be regarded the lawless community of this State, but Richmond is rapidly gaining the reputation of being the most lawless and politically corrupt city in the State, because its public servants have no respect for the laws made by the legislature and as a body of office-holders run Richmond to suit themselves, protecting whatever crime they will, defying the people and the peoples' representatives.



## Sophie Malloy An Old Offender

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It does not yet appear that the Lee woman, given a heavy sentence for running a house of ill fame, had been up before as a frequent violater of the law, but Sophie Malloy, whom Justice John gave a light sentence, had frequently been up for criminal offenses in Justice John's court, though she generally got off. The criminal docket of the police court for May 8, 1905, shows that Sophie Malloy was charged on a warrant with unlawfully selling spirituous liquors at 2224 East Main Street, without a license, on Sunday, May 7, 1905. And notice how the case turned out. The case was continued until May 20th, and the record says: "Bailed in the sum of \$500, *with W. P. Leaman as surety*," and on the 20th the case was marked "dismissed." This W. P. Leahman is the same one who figured so conspicuously in the recent trial of this same woman, at which time he was also a member of the Democratic Executive Committee of the City.

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## CONWAY

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Conway, the barkeeper, who shot a man in cold blood on Broad Street recently and was freed on instructions from the judge, was, besides being a murderer, also guilty of carrying concealed weapons.

The Police Department saw to it that the editor of this paper was searched for concealed weapons, though he had done no wrong and did not carry concealed weapons, but because Torrence was not alive enough to pay fifty cents to a justice of the peace for a warrant, Conway was not charged with that offence at all. We wonder why the police did not act in this case.

Is it because Conway was a barkeeper? for the barkeepers and their allies, the gamblers and the bawdy houses, enjoy *special privileges* in Richmond.

## Engineer Bolling and The Flume

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Just the other day the Times-Dispatch gave great praise to Engineer Bolling on the occasion of the completion of the flume. On December 20th that paper had a large picture of Engineer Bolling on the first page and over it in big headlines this legend, "Flume Stands Final Test, Justifying Bolling's Plan." To those who know the history of this flume building, and most Richmonders know it (including the *apparently* ignorant Times-Dispatch), this article was a mockery and a farce, for the taxpayers of Richmond know too well that "Bolling's Plan" was a glaring and expensive failure and was absolutely wrong both in design and in construction, both of which were under Bolling's direction. The present flume is not Bolling's plan, but is the plan forced on the city after Bolling's flume "busted" and fell to pieces. It was shown then that Bolling's plan, even if it had been constructed with proper care under Bolling's inspection, was absolutely faulty.

Engineers are wondering still what made a man supposed to be an engineer design such an absurd and impractical shape for a flume when it has been universally recognized for centuries that a round conduit alone would equalize the pressure.

How can a city expect anything like an economical and business management if the biggest paper in the town stoops so low as to praise most the man who makes the biggest blunders. The present engineer is a failure in almost all his big undertakings. He is undoubtedly an excellent fellow personally, but as an engineer he's a failure and a most expensive one for the taxpayers.

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## Whose Trial?

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Instead of its being a trial of A. A. Yoder, the libel case is turning out to be a trial of Justice John and the Police Department.



## ROTTEN!!

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As shown in the last number of THE IDEA, Captain Barfoot regarded a disorderly house and a house of ill-fame as identically the same, for he stated on the witness stand that after "he suspected the Molloy house of being a house of ill-fame" he swore out a warrant "charging her with keeping a *disorderly house*," and when the warrant was produced it read: "Sophie Molloy did unlawfully keep and maintain a certain house of *ill-fame*, resorted to by divers persons, both male and female, for purposes of prostitution and lewdness." Therefore, THE IDEA was exactly right in saying that the two women referred to were warranted on "similar" charges. Attorney Harry Smith tried to show that the charge against the Molloy woman was different in spite of the bare faced fact that evidence was given in the trial of the Molloy woman which showed that she did operate "a house of ill-fame" and Justice John knew it when he sentenced the woman, for it had been shown clearly not fifteen minutes before he passed sentence.

Mr. Meredith so entangled the witnesses of the prosecution that by their own testimony THE IDEA has been entirely vindicated and was shown to be abundantly justified in all its statements and inferences and criticisms. It shows how hard up the case of the prosecution is when they are forced to try to prove that a disorderly house is not the same as a house of ill-fame when exactly the same kind of evidence was given in both cases and by the same parties.

Not only do the police of Richmond regard a disorderly house and a house of ill-fame the same, but the press dispatches of December 7th show that this holds true elsewhere as well.

On December 7th the press dispatches state that a woman in Atlanta confessed to being engaged in the white slave trade and the papers state the woman "had two tickets to Columbia which she said had been sent to her for the girls' use by the keeper of a disorderly house there."

This shows that all over the country the terms "disorderly house" and "house of ill-fame" are synonymous, and THE IDEA

has nothing to retract or change in its charges that on similar charges two women were treated entirely differently, and it still looks rotten to us, especially since we know what we do. Our old English professor used to call this kind of talk "a distinction without a difference." Rotten! Rotten!!

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There won't be any need for the Editor putting any of his own witnesses on the stand in the Hustings Court, if the prosecution's witnesses get as balled up up there and help him out as much as they did in the Police Court.

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## THE TRIAL

*(Continued)*

Last Week's Idea Closed with the Conclusion of Captain Sowell's Testimony.

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Isaac Rheinheimer and Cabell T. Fitzgerald next were introduced to show that Mr. Gordon left the room before the woman plead guilty on the second warrant, but as it makes no difference about this, as THE IDEA simply stated that the conversation was had "during the course of the trial," and there was only one trial, the woman pleading guilty to the second charge without a trial, it is not worth while to print their evidence.

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## Chris Manning Under Fire

### Denies Everything

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Q. (Reads) "Chris Manning sat, and Douglas Gordon stood, behind Justice John, and engaged him in conversation during the course of the trial." Is that so? A. I sat on the chair right there at the rear of the Police Justice. Q. Mr. Ellett's chair, is it not? A. The chair that Mr. Ellett occupies very frequently. I never opened my mouth to Justice Crutchfield,

nor did Justice Crutchfield open his mouth to me. Q. And you deny positively that you said anything to him about the Malloy woman, in any way, shape or form? A. Most emphatically. Q. Do you recall whether Douglas Gordon was here during the trial of this Malloy woman for keeping a disorderly house? A. Yes, sir, I remember very distinctly what happened that day. We came into court—Mr. Gordon and myself—came to court together; we went to see the Chief of Police and was told he was here. Q. Did you know that case was going to be tried that day? A. No, sir. We came into court, and the Chief was in the case—they were trying the case for selling liquor, and Mr. Gordon said to me, “I have an engagement with Mr. Chesterman at the Builders’ Exchange. Come on, and go.” I said, “No, I believe I will wait and see what they do in this case. He left while they were trying the case for selling liquor. Q. Did he speak to Mr. Crutchfield while he was in here? A. He did not. Q. And you say you did not? A. I did not.

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## **“Don’t Protect” But Could Not Answer Why He Did Not Enforce Law.**

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## **Did not Know the Malloy Woman, but said he had Called.**

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### CROSS EXAMINATION.

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By Mr. Meredith:

Q. It does appear that you and Mr. Gordon were in court when each one of these cases—the Lee case and the Malloy case—was being tried. A. We were in court when they were trying the Maggie Lee case; I was in court while they tried both cases against the Malloy woman; Mr. Gordon did not remain to hear the case for selling liquor finished, against the Malloy woman. Q. Do you protect these houses from being molested? A. I do not. Q. Why have these people not been



arrested, when you have the photographs and locations of them?

Question objected to by Mr. Smith; objection sustained by Justice, after long argument by counsel.

Q. How long have you known Miss Sophie Malloy? A. I have never known her—only the house. Q. Have you ever spoken to her? A. Once in my life. Q. Then you knew her. How long have you known her? A. I think about two years ago I spoke to her. Q. Whereabouts? A. At her house. Q. You were in her house? A. Yes, sir. Q. Were you in the house that the Police Justice has denounced as the worst in town? A. I was in the porch of that house. Q. What were you doing there, in the porch? A. I went there to make an inquiry. Q. And you saw her and knew her. Were you not raised in that neighborhood? A. I was born in that neighborhood, and lived there up to the time I was seven years old. Q. How far off from the Malloy house? A. I was born right across the street from it. Q. And never knew Sophy Malloy? A. No, sir. Q. Had you ever heard of her reputation before this Conway trial? A. Yes, sir. Q. What was her reputation? A. Her reputation was not good. I had heard it ever since her mother's death. Q. When did that take place? A. I can not say. I suppose six or seven years ago. Q. What had you heard? A. That liquor was sold there. I know the police had the place in court two or three times. I remember being in the police station one morning when Police Officer Johnson said he wanted to go into her house, and someone jumped on his back and prevented him; but I never heard of this house being mentioned as an assignation house, until about six or eight months ago. Q. Did you ever hear of colored women going there? A. I heard that men and women went there for the purpose of— Q. I did not ask you the purpose—I will come to that by and by. Did you ever hear of colored men and women going there? A. No, sir. Q. Did you ever hear of colored women going there? A. I have heard her name mentioned in connection with a colored man—a man out on First Street. Q. What was his name? A. I don't know, sir; I just heard of it. Q. You heard of it out yonder? A. No, sir; a man named Moseley, when the liquor license was up—a colored man named Moseley, when the liquor license question was up—a colored man

named Moseley, who occupied the place formerly occupied by Jim Baker, on north First Street—a policeman testified that there was some white women in there, and I heard this woman's name mentioned as being in there with colored men. Q. That is the lady who occupies the house? A. Yes, sir. Q. Did you ever hear of white women going in that house? A. Never, as I told you, until about six or eight months ago. Q. You are police commissioner from what ward? A. Jefferson Ward. Q. In what ward is that house? A. Jefferson Ward. Q. You say you were in court that morning? A. Yes, sir. Q. Accidentally? A. Yes, sir. Q. You staid after you got here? A. Yes, sir. Q. And you say you didn't say a word to the Justice? A. Not a word. Q. Did you sit up there on the bench? A. I sat back in Mr. Ellett's chair. Q. Was there one warrant against that woman that morning, or two? A. I could not tell you. There were two charges.

Mr. Meredith: We would like to see the warrant, to see if the two charges were on the same warrant. (Addressing the Justice) You say I cannot go any further with him than ask him about this particular occasion—the Malloy business.

The Justice: Anything pertaining to the Malloy business.

Mr. Meredith: I want to ask this witness if he don't know that there are any number of houses of ill fame in the city of Richmond, that are thoroughly located, and that the police don't make arrests—in accordance with the rulings or instructions from the Police Board.

Mr. Smith: We object.

Mr. Meredith: You have ruled on it, but I wanted to get it in the record.

The Justice: It has no bearing on this case.

The Justice: There are two separate and distinct warrants.

Mr. Meredith: I have no further questions. There is no use of my keeping the witness any longer. Your honor has cut us off in our examination.

Witness here stood aside.



## Gordon On The Stand

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GORDON ON THE STAND, SAYS, "I DID NOT SPEAK TO HIM NOR HE TO ME," BUT DOES NOT DENY A CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE, AS THE IDEA CHARGED.

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W. DOUGLAS GORDON, being duly sworn, testified as follows: By Mr. Smith: Q. Mr. Gordon, were you in court when Sophy Malloy was tried on this charge? A. Not on the charge of keeping a disorderly house. Q. Have you ever asked Mr. Crutchfield to be light on her, or interfered in her behalf in any way, shape or form? A. I never spoke to Mr. Crutchfield about her in my life, nor about any case on earth, except I have walked up here in front occasionally and begged for leniency—especially Captain Fowler and I have walked up several times and asked him to turn small boys over to him—Captain Fowler. Q. Were you interested in any way, or in any manner, shape or form, in what his decision was in the Malloy case? A. Not in the very least. Q. Did you speak to Mr. Crutchfield during the trial. A. No, sir; I came in and this young Mr. Rheinheimer opened the gate for me, and I tip-toed in because he was engaged in trying the case, and sat directly behind him; I don't think he could have seen me; at any rate I did not speak to him or he to me; I had an engagement down at the Builders' Exchange, of which I am the secretary, and could stay only a few minutes, and I tip-toed out of that door (indicates) before he pronounced his decision in the liquor selling case, and I did not know what his decision was until later in the day.

### CROSS EXAMINATION.

By Mr. Meredith: We are restricted from asking Mr. Gordon the questions we desired to ask Mr. Manning, are we?

The Justice: Yes, sir; the court adheres to the same ruling.

Mr. Meredith: We are cut off from our testimony, unless we put Mr. Yoder on, and I do not propose to put him on under these circumstances. I will though, ask him a few questions.

## Adon A. Yoder on the Witness Stand.

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Stands By His Statements—Shows Up the Ring—Had No Malice

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Meredith Again Overruled By Police Justice.

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Q. You made certain allegations there as to what took place: were they made up on information and belief, or what took place in your presence, so far as what took place at that trial?

A. That is what took place in my presence.

Q. You have stated in here—I suppose there is no denial of the fact that Maggie Lee was fined \$100 and sent to jail for thirty days?

Mr. Smith: I don't know; I was not here.

Commonwealth's Attorney: That is true.

Q. Did you witness the hearing of the Sophy Malloy case?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you hear both cases tried—the liquor case and the other one?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. When you came in were they in the midst of the trial, or had they begun?

A. I think they had just begun; I came in while the trial was on.

Q. Did you hear the testimony?

A. I don't know really how far they had gone, but I think I heard most of the testimony.

Q. Was there any testimony brought out at that time about the Conway trouble—or did that occur on a previous occasion, do you know?

A. Yes, that testimony was brought out at that time, in connection with the charge of whiskey selling.

Q. Was it heard through?

A. It was heard through.

Q. Do you recall what it was?

A. I have heard several of those trials, and the evidence was pretty near the same in most of them, and I am not sure I could separate them, because they were so near alike; but I think Mrs. Gentry was on the stand when I came in—Mrs. Gentry or Mrs. Torrence—that is my recollection about it.

Q. Did they testify to anything about buying liquor in that house?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What was the testimony, as well as you can recall it?

A. Mrs. Gentry testified that money was offered for beer, and that the woman brought in beer first, and a "kick" was made that the beer was not good and she would have to bring in some Anheuser-Busch beer, I think it was; that the woman said she didn't have any of that and would have to send out for it; and it was raining—

Q. That is what Mrs. Gentry said?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Said that in the presence of the Police Justice?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Well, what else?

A. The evidence was given that the other beer was brought in three times after that.

Q. Do you recall what defence was made in regard to the beer?

A. The defence was made that one dollar was given for the four times, and that was a dozen, and she didn't make any money on the transaction, and, therefore, she was not guilty.

Q. And yet the testimony before the justice, on which he entered a verdict in her favor, was that Mrs. Gentry said she didn't have the other kind of beer and would have to send out for it?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And that she had given a dollar for it, and did not make any money on it?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you hear then the other ruling, about keeping this disorderly house?

A. I heard the charge. I was under the impression they were under one warrant, because the question came up—Mr. Pollock brought up the question, "Shall we try them together, or try



them *séparate*," and my impression was that they were under one warrant; but it seems there were two warrants.

Q. Now, what took place in the trial of that charge?

A. There was no evidence given; it was very brief, and the plea was entered that she was guilty, and a fine was imposed.

Q. Had you heard the previous testimony in regard to these women being down there?

A. Yes.

Q. That had been given before the justice before that?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. As to these women meeting young men down there?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you hear the justice make any remark about the character of that house?

A. Yes; he said it was one of the worst, or perhaps the worst, in the city—I have not got the exact words. I think he said, "This is one of the worst houses in the city."

Q. You have made the statement in this article of yours that Mr. Manning and Mr. Gordon both spoke to the Police Justice during the trial. Is that a fact, or not?

A. That is not exactly the statement. The statement is that there was a conversation in which they entered. Now, I did not hear any words pass.

Q. Here is the thing: "Chris Manning sat, and Douglas Gordon stood, behind Justice John, and engaged him in conversation during the course of the trial." Do you swear that is a fact?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Beyond all shadow of a doubt?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you see it?

A. I saw it.

Q. And you stand to it, now?

A. Yes, sir. Now, it is possible that Mr. Gordon did not speak, but they had their heads together, and Justice John did address Mr. Manning, and from their attitude and motions, Mr. Manning answered him. They had their heads together and Mr. Gordon leaned over and was in the conversation. I suppose from

that it could be said he was in the conversation, whether he opened his mouth or not.

Q. And that is what you describe took place?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have you misrepresented any fact that took place at that trial?

A. Not that I know of.

Q. Did you give it exactly as it happened?

A. Exactly as it happened. I had no reason to give it otherwise.

Q. Have you any malice towards the Police Justice?

A. None, sir.

Q. Did you have any malice towards Mr. Crutchfield?

A. No, sir.

Q. Have you ever had any quarrel with him, except so far as criticizing his official conduct?

A. No, sir.

Q. Have you ever done any act to hurt him personally?

A. No, sir.

Q. Have you ever said anything against him personally?

A. No, sir. I criticized his official acts.

Q. I ask you the same questions in regard to Mr. Manning. Do you know Mr. Manning?

A. No, sir.

(Mr. Smith objected to the line of testimony. Objection overruled.)

Q. I think I asked you what were your relations towards the Police Justice—whether they were personally antagonistic, or whether you had any ill-will towards him.

A. No, I had none.

Q. What is your object in writing these articles, or what do you do it for?

A. To clean up corruption and evils here.

Q. And you regard it as your right to attack evil wherever you see it, in public channels?

A. Certainly, sir.

*Concluded Next Week.*

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

Vol. IV

January 8, 1910

No. 2



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DON'T WASH THE MIRROR, WASH YOUR FACE

FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

BEING SOME SERMONETTES PUBLISHED WEEKLY FOR THE  
COMMON GOOD AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, BY ADON  
YODER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, 904 CAPITAL ST. RICH-  
MOND, VA. PRINTED AT EVERYWHERE

## Prizes for Boys—December-January Contest

The boys will be given 10 copies for boys selling the greatest number of IDEAS in December and January. Prizes were recently given out for the November contest. A handsome watch was the first prize, and first quality stag handle pocket knives were given to the nine boys selling the nine next largest numbers. One boy sold 226 copies in the month, thus making, at 2 cents each, \$4.52, besides the watch.

Selling IDEAS pays the boys well even if they do not secure the first prize.

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We have them as low as they can be sold, as well as Medicines of unexcelled quality, which conform strictly to the United States Pure Food and Drug Law.

You want information as to what is best to give medical students at Christmas, January 1st or at Commencement Exercises. This we can give you of the most satisfactory character.

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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

JANUARY 8, 1910

NO. 1

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,  
904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, at Richmond, Virginia

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## Further Testimony by the Editor of The Idea

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### In Which He Stands by His Published Charges of Corruption

The testimony of the Editor of THE IDEA was continued as follows, the examination still being conducted by Mr. Meredith:

Q. In regard to Mr. Manning and Mr. Gordon, will you tell his honor whether you have ever had occasion to feel personal animosity toward them—whether they have ever done anything to you to create in your heart any anger or indignation?

A. No, sir, none whatever.

Q. Have they ever come across your path in any personal manner?

A. I have never met either one—except Mr. Gordon; he came to me rather to do a favor, so if anything I would be inclined just the opposite.

Q. And you claim that in writing these things that you stated the facts, and then commented on them as you thought was right under the circumstances?



A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you know at the time that these bawdy houses were existing in the city of Richmond?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did you know they were existing here in such a way that anybody who wanted to could find them?

A. Yes, sir.

Mr. Smith: I make the same objection.

The Justice: You are getting off, I think, again. The ruling of the court was that you must confine yourself to this Malloy case. Now you are going into the various houses.

Mr. Meredith: No, sir, I am showing this: That the circumstances which took place there that morning, together with what he knew existed in this city, justified the comments that he made. That his knowledge of this thing was such as to lead him to believe when he saw what took place in his presence—one woman, with only one charge against her, fined \$100 and sent to jail for 30 days; and another woman, who was charged with two offences and keeping a place which was described by the Police Justice as one of the worst in town, and where it was proven married women met young men, and where she sold liquor to them, and they were having all kinds of debauchery—that woman was fined \$100 and not given a jail sentence—whether it was discretionary with the Police Justice, or not; and whether the witness arrived at a wrong conclusion or not, that is not the question, or whether or not he had the right, or was justified, as the result of these two trials, in making the comment upon them he did. I am offering it for the purpose of showing the knowledge he had, and the justification he had for making those comments.

The Justice: That would be going outside of this case.

Mr. Meredith: I don't know what you mean by this case.

The Justice: Well, the particular and specific charge pertaining to the Malloy case, and what transpired about the Malloy case, in this court.

(Note.—The objection was further argued at considerable length; and at the conclusion of the argument the Justice ruled that the testimony could not be introduced.)

## Cross-Examination.

By Mr. Smith:

Q. Mr. Yeder, how long have you lived in Richmond?

A. This time about six months—nearly seven months.

Q. Did you start publishing the paper as soon as you got here?

A. Yes.

Q. How long had you been here before you commenced publishing this paper—"The Idea"?

A. Two or three weeks.

Q. You came here to publish the paper, did you not?

A. Yes.

Q. You had practically made up your mind to publish a paper of this sort before you came here, hadn't you?

A. Yes; I had been publishing a paper of this sort.

Q. Not in Richmond?

A. Of course not.

Q. In Lynchburg, I believe?

A. Yes.

Q. And you had made up your mind to come down here and publish the same sort of paper?

A. Yes.

Q. Did you know much about the conditions in Richmond, before you came here, that you thought it was necessary to publish a paper of this sort?

A. I did not know very much about the conditions.

Q. Still you thought it was a good field to show up corruption, although you didn't know much about it?

A. I understood it was a very bad place, and I found it out.

Q. And yet you came here? Knowing it was a very bad place, you thought you would come down?

A. Yes.

Q. You could have gone anywhere else?

A. Of course I could.

Q. And yet you chose to come to this very bad place?

A. Very bad politically; very good otherwise.

Q. Did you own any property here?

A. No.

Q. Did you have any family down here that you were inter-

ested in, and that you thought it was necessary to come here and protect?

A. No.

Q. Knowing it was a bad place, you thought it was a good field to come to publish this paper?

A. Yes.

Q. You had no tangible interest whatever down here?

A. No.

Q. Not a dollar's worth of interest in the city, as far as I understand. Not even a voter here.

A. No, but I am a citizen of Virginia, though. Richmond is my capital city.

Q. A very bad place, and yet you have come here.

A. In one sense it is very bad.

Q. And you have advertised it to the whole world as a corrupt city?

A. Politically, I did.

Q. Now, Mr. Yoder, you head your article "Reign of Crime."

A. Yes.

Q. That reign of crime refers, of course, to Judge Crutchfield and to those other gentlemen who you say are in a combination with him—that Judge Crutchfield and the Police Commissioners are engaged in a reign of crime.

A. That is the inference.

Q. Is that true?

A. To a certain extent it is true. That is only a part of it.

Q. This is only an introduction to the reign of crime?

A. I refer to more than one thing in that article, if you will read it.

Q. Is this article here intended to prove that there is a reign of crime in the city of Richmond?

A. It seems to do it, of course.

Q. Then you intended to prove by this article that there was a reign of crime in the city of Richmond?

A. To a certain extent there is.

Q. And that the Police Justice is a part of that reign of crime?

A. Yes.



Q. And you still believe every word of this is true, do you?

A. I know it.

Q. You know it is all true now?

A. Yes.

*(Concluding testimony in this case will be found on page 12.)*

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## Pointed Questions From A Clay Ward Citizen

Richmond, Va., Decemehr 4, 1909.

*Mr. Editor:*

*Dear Sir,*—I read an article in last issue which was very interesting in regard to the annexed territory. There could have been much more said along that line. I notice the writer calls the attention of the Annexation Committee of Manchester to the condition of a large part of the annexed territory of Clay Ward. I will add that it might be a good plan for that body of citizens of Manchester to go over some of this part of Richmond and see the conditions existing. I would suggest that if they come to bring along a pair of stilts and a couple of life preservers if they come after a hard rain, or they might be drowned. There are no culverts to carry off the water, and it is especially dangerous to come at night without a lantern. I would like to see one of our councilmen risk a trip on a dark night after a rain from Robinson and Cary streets, out Cary to the city limits on one side and back to Robinson street on the other side; then take Floyd avenue for the same distance, and I will bet a dinner at the Jefferson Hotel that he will not make the same trip a second time without a gun, a lantern and a bull dog, and I hardly believe he will do it then. I wonder what all that iron pipe lying on the ground along Floyd avenue is for. Can it be water pipe? I wonder if it is to be used for any pur-

pose, or is it simply a bluff to keep the people along that street in a good humor. This is indeed a funny state of affairs. On one side of Floyd avenue the people have city water and on the other side they have none. This looks like one-sided legislation to me. I also notice something being said in reference to opening up the street through the Sheppard Farm at a cost of some \$40,000. Well, I won't say much against that, as that street will not run away, but will remain there for a long time, although it would not take many streets like that to eat up our one million and a half dollars of bonds just issued. I wonder how much the new boulevard is expected to cost? And I also wonder how much it will benefit the real estate dealers? Also how much the tax payers are to be benefited? I also wonder how much property along this proposed boulevard is owned by members of the aldermen and councilmen of this city? I wish to say, Mr. Editor, if this boulevard is commenced to be built before something is done for the people along the streets that improved property is now located, that we, the unjustly taxed citizens of the southwestern part of the annexed territory of Clay Ward, shall apply to the courts for an injunction, which we should have done when the Doctor Sheppard matter went through.

Thanking you in advance if you will publish this, I am,  
Cordially yours,

A REGULAR READER.

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## WHERE ??

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Three weeks ago THE IDEA was printed at Elsewhere, Va.  
Two weeks ago THE IDEA was printed at Somewhere, Va.  
One week ago THE IDEA was printed at Anywhere, Va.  
This week THE IDEA is printed at Everywhere, Va.

## The Bryan Papers Again Garbled and Misleading Reports of Saloon License Case

---

On the occasion of the transferring of a saloon licence from Marshall street to Broad street recently by the Hustings Court the two Bryan papers tried to discredit the anti-saloon advocates of the city in the eyes of the public by giving distorted and highly-colored reports of the proceedings which, being only partly true and in many places absolutely untrue, did make the people think that they were a lot of fools instead of being what they are, the most conscientious and self-sacrificing workers for the moral and material betterment of Richmond and Virginia.

The evening paper held the women of the W. C. T. U. up to public scorn by their unfair report and the morning paper by giving unwarranted prominence to certain proceedings and unfair reports of other proceedings used the representatives of this same W. C. T. U. to make an uncalled for and vicious attack on the high-toned President of Smithdeal College, one of the most fearless fighters against the saloon and other evils that Richmond possesses.

The morning paper, the *Times-Dispatch*, moreover, tried to create the impression that Professor Smithdeal and others were willing for ulterior motives to sanction the granting of a saloon license.

The real facts are these: President Smithdeal, the Rev. Mr. Fowler, Judge Turpin, the Editor of this paper, Dr. Forsyth, and many other high-toned Christian gentlemen all testified that if any place was suitable for a bar they could see no reason why this was not as suitable as others, and many testified that this location was more suitable than others, because it was right un-



der the shadow of the office of the Chief of Police, was further from any church than any of the three other large hotels, and was on a main thoroughfare, where the police, as well as the citizens, could see that it was well conducted. Dr. Forsyth at first made objection based on a misunderstanding of the case, but stated on being corrected, "then my objection does not hold."

Many of the witnesses summonsed by the Commonwealth and the Police Department who vigorously opposed the license testified in favor of the transfer, not having any objection to make to the particular location, since the license would be held by some bar anyhow. Among these were many of the young ladies of the Life Insurance Co. of Virginia, who had made objection on a false idea of the location of the bar, and the Editor of this paper, who stated that he thought no place was suitable for the sale of whiskey, but that since hotel saloons were generally less disorderly than others, he thought the location more suitable than the one on Marshall street from which the license was being transferred, and by which his wife and children must pass in going daily to market, for Marshall street has less police protection than has Broad.

The *News-Leader's* brief reference to the editor contained not only a false statement that "he was not called as a witness for the Commonwealth"; but also gave a most erroneous account of his stand on that occasion. The Editor of this paper has always fought, is always fighting, and always will fight the saloon and strong drink evil more persistently and strenuously and uncompromisingly than any one he knows of, and these false reports published by the *News-Leader* and the *Times-Dispatch* as to his attitude towards the saloon are nothing more nor less than deliberate and malicious attempts to discredit THE IDEA and all others who oppose evils in Richmond.

It is due the men who took the stand on that occasion to state that the conception that readers would get from the daily papers

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6. **In Collections** requiring prompt attention and untiring efforts.

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that they were there in the interest of furthering the sale of whiskey is absolutely false.

The *News-Leader's* account of the trial, beginning on page 1 and continuing for more than a column of page 10, never even mentioned the fact that the question was whether a license should be transferred, much less that it was whether it should be transferred from a family liquor store next door to the market house, within two blocks of which there are eighteen bars, to a hotel to be conducted by Mr. S. T. Akinson, whom the Chief of Police said conducted one of the most orderly places in the city in the shape of the bar at the Richmond Hotel, which is so quiet that many frequent passers-by never know of its existence.

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## **Saunders Libel Suit Date Set for Hearing**

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The suit for \$25,000 damages brought in the early fall by Clyde W. Saunders against the Editor of *THE IDEA* and the Williams Brothers, who, as the Williams Printing Co., were doing the printing at the time, will come up in the Law and Equity Court on February 1st.

---

## **The Criminal Libel Trial to be Heard January 24th**

---

The trial of A. A. Yoder for criminal libel on warrant sworn out by Douglas Gordon and made in the name of Gordon and Manning, Commissioners, and Justice Crutchfield for defamation of character (and so forth, for several pages) will come up in the Hustings Court on January 24 on appeal from the Police



Court, where the Editor was fined \$100 and sentenced fifteen days in jail after a farce of a trial in which his evidence was almost entirely ruled out by the justice, Griggs, who did not know the law, it being his first hearing.

---

## **Sam Kaufman Back in Town Gambler Exiled "Forever" Back But Not Put in Jail**

---

Some time ago Sam Kaufman was arrested twice for operating a gambling joint on Ninth street. On the first charge he was dismissed, although the evidence appeared to disinterested parties sufficient to convict. Later he was sent to jail on the second charge, after which Gilbert Pollock and Justice John appeared before the Governor and begged for a pardon on the ground that Kaufman had a family to support and the Governor pardoned him on the "condition that he would leave the State and remain forever away." Last Sunday we learned that he was back here again, at large walking the streets as usual. Monday the writer himself verified it by seeing him. He is well known to the police, who know that he is back, and yet no attempt is made to have him serve out his time.

It seems strange (?) that Justice John and Gilbert Pollock should put themselves out so much to vouch for a gambler who has proven himself on oath to be unworthy of belief and turn him at large on the community on his (a gambler's) promise to stay forever away from Richmond!

Gilbert Pollock must have known that after Kaufman was once free he could not be recommitted to jail, even if he violated his word.

Thus is Justice John used to further the ends of injustice.

## Dead Fish In Settling Basin

When the settling basins were drained preparatory to repairing them hundreds and hundreds of fish died and decayed on the floor of the basins as the shallow pools dried up.

After decomposing there the basins were repaired, but the basins were never carefully washed out, and so when the water was turned on, about Christmas, the citizens all over town got sick. One doctor reported some thirty cases in a short time in his own practice of vomiting and other disorders of the digestive tract. In many places whole families were sick. In the home of the writer all six save he were sick.

In most cases the malady was not acute enough for a physician, but there was hardly a home in which one or more were not affected. Dr. Levy, of the Health Department, stated that it could not be attributed to the alum, only a little of which was used, but no one mentioned the dead fish, although those in charge must have known the conditions

We wonder why it is that no one in authority took it in his own hands to see that the basins were thoroughly cleansed before sending this poisoning filth into the homes of 100,000 people as drinking water.

## Testimony in Libel Case

*(Continued)*

After much crossfiring and a vain effort on the part of the prosecuting lawyer to entangle and confuse the witness the testimony in the case was concluded as follows:

By Mr. Smith:

Q. You did mean that these two men, Gordon and Manning, were here for the purpose of influencing the judge in his decision in this case?

A. I say I had the right to infer that.

Q. And that is what you meant—you don't deny it, do you?

A. I have not denied anything I said.

Q. And you believed it was true—in fact you stated it was true, after you were arrested on this libel.

Mr. Meredith: I desire to call your honor's attention to this fact—that they are bringing out this, that when he wrote this article he believed it to be true. I call your honor's attention to that, because the courts have said that is a material thing.

Mr. Smith: I want to show that two weeks after he was arrested on this criminal warrant, he reiterated that this article was true—did you not?

A. Not after I was arrested; I had written it before.

Q. You allowed it to be published after you were arrested.

A. Certainly.

Q. You had allowed it to go to the public—

A. That article was written to show there was something else there—somebody else, as well.

Q. I can not find the place I am thinking of; I think it must have been in the edition of the 20th. You do remember that you wrote an article after this one, in which you said that this article headed "Reign of Crime," was true.

A. What is that?

Q. What day were you arrested?

A. I don't know.

Mr. Meredith: Sergeant, can you tell from your record the day Mr. Yoder was arrested?

The Clerk: The case was called November 16th. The warrant was issued on November 15th.

Q. I ask you, Mr. Yoder, is it not a fact—oh! here it is. Did you state in an article in your issue of November 20th—this was after you were arrested—the case was called on November 16th, that was Tuesday, and you go to press on Friday, I believe, and your paper is issued on Saturday—you were arrested Monday night, I understand: Now, did you not nearly a week afterward state that "THE IDEA'S" statements, however, were true—referring to this article? Now, I ask you, a week after you were arrested for this particular libel—

A. There has been no libel.

Q. Didn't you reiterate that the statements in the *alleged* libel were true?

A. That is a different thing.



Q. Didn't you a week after you were arrested for this libel on those gentlemen, reiterate in a subsequent article, nearly a week after your arrest, that the statements in this article complained of were true?

A. Yes.

Q. Mr. Meredith has undertaken to prove that when you said "corrupt" you did not necessarily mean money. I wish you would look at this cartoon here, and see if you have not got a picture of the police commissioners, with the word "Graft," and a bag of gold being spilled. Had you ever heard of that interpretation of the word "corrupt" until Mr. Meredith gave it here in court? Did you write the word "corrupt" in the sense that Mr. Meredith explains it?

A. Certainly.

Q. I ask you why you put a cartoon in your paper, and why under the police commissioners you put "Graft," and have a bag of gold or silver bursted, at their feet?

A. That is very consistent with what I had to say. The cartoonist did that.

Q. Then you are not responsible for your cartoonist?

A. I did not say that.

Q. Your cartoonist drew that, but you published it.

A. I certainly did, and I am responsible for that, and every word in it.

Q. And that is inconsistent with Mr. Meredith's definition of the word "corrupt," isn't it?

A. No, it is not.

Q. Well, we will leave it to the judge.

A. That is a specified case there of corruption.

By Mr. Meredith:

Q. What is that referring to?

A. To the present form of government. (Laughter.)

By Mr. Smith:

Q. So you meant to imply that there was "graft" amongst the police commissioners; is that what you meant?

A. That is what you mean?

Q. I did not ask that; I am not on the witness stand. I asked you if you meant there was "graft" amongst the police com-

missioners?

A. Are you talking about that book, or cartoon?

Q. I am talking about "THE IDEA," of which you have the distinguished honor of being the editor. You meant by this cartoon that there was "graft" among the police commissioners?

A. That is naturally what he meant, and I am responsible for it.

Q. Your cartoonist gets his inspiration from what you write.

A. There is graft and money consideration; but that has nothing to do with this specific charge. One is a specific case, and the other is general.

Q. In the very number you refer to this trial, is the cartoon, which speaks of police commissioners and graft and a bag of money; is it not?

A. I have not looked to see; I think it is. I will take your word—for that much.

Q. (Reads) "Printers harassed—may refuse to print." "Is the freedom of the press only a name in Virginia." "An appeal to the people." This was after your arrest—in your issue of November 27th. The cartoon is there, with money in a bag.

The witness here stood aside.

---

REV. TILDEN SCHERER

introduced as a witness on behalf of defendant, duly sworn,  
testified as follows:

By Mr. Meredith:

Q. You are a minister of the gospel?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. What denomination?

A. Presbyterian.

Q. Where is your church located?

A. Corner of 19th and Franklin Streets, Richmond.

Q. What is about your attendance there?

Mr. Smith: We object to that.

The Justice: The court rules that it really has no bearing, but if you ask the gentleman his occupation I see no objection to admitting that.

Mr. Meredith: I want you to tell his honor whether there has been a house of ill-fame right across the street from your church, and which you have tried for the last twelve or eighteen months to get rid of, but that you can not get the police to get rid of it, that they won't do it.

Mr. Smith: I ask if you refer to the Malloy place?

Mr. Meredith: I do not.

The Justice: You will have to confine yourself to the Malloy case.

Commonwealth's Attorney: I would like to have that information, if your honor please?

Mr. Meredith: If the Commonwealth's Attorney is so liberal, it does seem to me that he should let us have the whole thing.

Commonwealth's Attorney: I want that, because that is outside of the "Red Light District."

Mr. Meredith: Tell me what the "Red Light District" is. What are its limits?

Commonwealth's Attorney: The Chief of Police will have to tell you that.

(Chief of Police Werner was here recalled to the stand.)

Mr. Meredith: What are the limits of the "Red Light District?" Major?

Mr. Smith: Are you going into that, judge?

The Justice: No, sir. The ruling of the court is that you must confine yourself to the Malloy case; that is all there is about it, gentlemen. I am not going any further than that.

Evidence ends here.

(Decision of the justice.)

The Justice: I want to say, gentlemen, before rendering my decision in this case, that an attack of this kind upon an individual is bad enough, but when it comes to attacking the courts of this Commonwealth, thereby attempting to destroy the foundation of the judiciary, it is simply outrageous and should not be tolerated. A person guilty of such should be punished, and I am going to punish the accused in this case; I find him guilty, and fine him one hundred dollars and sentence him to fifteen days in the city jail.

Mr. Meredith: I take an appeal.



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"THE IDEA" WILL GIVE PRIZES TO

Newsboys who get the greatest number of weekly subscribers and other prizes to those who sell the most copies.

The Contest will begin with the 1st of December and boys desiring to compete should begin today to work for their weekly subscriptions.

Boys should leave their names at the time of getting their papers so that we may keep an accurate record of their sales.

Some time ago THE IDEA gave away a Watch and nine other valuable prizes, and the winning boys did good work. One boy selling 112 copies of THE IDEA of one issue. There is good money in it for the boys besides the prizes.

ALFRED L. WALTON, Jr.

FRANK L. HUTCHESON

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

January 15, 1910

No. 3

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Crooked Methods

Police Protection

of Gamblers Exposed.

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## The Last of the Trial

Justice John Shown up.

Smiths Brow Beating Amounts to  
Naught.

Below We Print the Last Evidenc in the Criminal Libel  
Case A. A. Yoder on the Stand.

---

Cross-examination by H. M. Smith.

Q. Notwithstanding the testimony that has been given here, you still believe that Sophy Malloy's place is under the protection of the Police Department. You still believe that in the face of this testimony, do you?

A. I have not said anything about that.

Q. You say you still believe this article: now I ask you if you

still believe this Sophy Malloy's house is under the protection of the Police Department?

A. I have not said anything about "Is"; that article was written several weeks ago.

Q. I ask you do you believe now that this place is under the protection of the Police Department, or that it was?

Mr. Meredith: What interest have we whether it is now?

A. It has changed a whole lot since then.

The Justice: He wants to prove that he believed what he wrote there.

Mr. Meredith: That is, at the time he wrote it. He asks the question now.

Witness: The article was true when I wrote it; I don't know what it is right now.

The Justice: Mr. Smith, you had better ask him as to what it was at the time he wrote it. You can not question him as to what he believes now. Confine yourself strictly to this paper.

Q. When you wrote this article you stated that this assignation house had been operated for years. How can you state that that has been operated as an assignation house?

A. I got my information from the justice.

Q. In other words, you inferred that it was a notorious assignation house, and had been operated for years—

A. From what he said, and what appeared in the trial.

Q. That is all the evidence you had?

A. About that particular house, at that time, it was.

Q. And though there was not enough evidence for him to convict of keeping an assignation house—

A. There was evidence enough for him to convict, and he said so.

Q. Did you not hear him say when on the stand that there was not evidence enough?

A. He said that he could have issued a warrant—

Q. He said he could if there had been evidence sufficient. Didn't you hear him say there was not evidence sufficient to convict?

A. I say the evidence was similar to the evidence in the case in which he did convict. Therefore, I am right.

Q. So you are still right that he was wrong in his decision?

The Justice: You can not bring the question up now; but at that time, when he wrote that article.

Q. Did you draw the inference that because you differed with Judge Crutchfield, that he was wrong in his decision?

A. Because I differed?

Q. Yes; did you form your conclusion, because you differed with him, that therefore he was wrong?

A. Because I heard the testimony, and I know of certain condition.

Q. I say, after the testimony that you heard here in this courtroom you went home and wrote that he had decided the case wrong, did you?

A. Yes, sir, certainly.

Q. And that there was something corrupt behind it; that is what you meant, is it not?

A. I referred to other conditions as well.

Q. Did you not mean that he gave a wrong decision on the evidence, and that there was something corrupt behind the decision? That there were corrupt influences; that his decision was a corrupt decision? That is what you meant, is it?

Mr. Meredith: He has not said so.

The Justice: Just answer the question.

Mr. Smith: I am asking him if that is what he meant in this article.

A. The words are very plain: if you will read them you will see that.

Q. I ask you on cross-examination, if you did not mean that his decision was corrupt?

A. I did not say so.

Q. I ask you if you meant it?

A. That is another question, which I refuse to answer.

Q. All right. Now, you still say that Mr. Manning and Douglas Gordon—one sat and one stood behind Justice Crutch-



field and engaged him in conversation during the course of the trial?

A. Yes.

Q. You still say that what you said it true?

A. Yes, I have said it twice.

Q. You say that the combination of Manning, Gordon, Pollock and Leaman, with Justice John, is responsible for the fact that this notorious creature who has operated for years in the same place, and known to the police as the worst kind of a joint for the ruination of young girls and the illegal of married women with other men—what is your foundaiton for that statement, that it was known to the police—

A. That evidence had come out in the court.

Q. You heard the testimony here of the police officers, didn't you? Did any evidence come out that this place was known as a notorious assignation house? As I understand, Mr. Crutchfield testified that no evidence came out—that she plead guilty.

A. Evidence came out in a trial, which I understood was a part of that trial. I understand now it was on a separate warrant, but tried at the same time.

Q. Did that one transaction of those women on this particular occasion, or any other, justify you in saying that this notorious creature had operated for years in the same place, and known to the police as the worst kind of a joint for the ruination of young girls, and the illegal meetings of married women with other men?

A. No; coupled with Justice John's statement and other evidence that appeared in the trial.

Q. What evidence that appeared in the trial?

A. Justice John said that it had been a notorious place for years.

Q. He said he made that statement in connection with and referred to the fact of their selling liquor—referring to it as a "speak-easy."

Mr. Meredith: No, he said he knew about that house—that was on the trial of the woman for keeping a disorderly house.

Mr. Smith: He said distinctly that he referred to the fact that it was a "speak-easy."

(Continued to page 10)

# Police Protect GAMBLING HOUSES.

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## The Editors Private Papers Stolen for a Purpose.

When the Editor was arrested in November on the criminal libel charge he could not fully understand why, even after his strenuous protest, his private papers were confiscated.

Recent development however, show what the game was.

A certain prominent slick politician whom the Idea had exposed had reason to believe that the editor had the copies of certain letters which implicated him and so this politician sought to get a friend of the editor's to obtain under false pretences these letters from the editor for a certain consideration.

He failed in this attempt however and when the editor was arrested soon after Geo. Pollock, Brother of Gilbert Pollock and partictular friend of the slick politician referred to, immediately proceeded to appropriate the editors papers and to read them contrary both to the law and to the practice among gentlemen and it does not require a Soloman to see why, in view of these facts and what followed.

On the person of the editor there were besides private correspondence, certain memoranda concerning a gambling house that operates boldly with the knowledge of the police.

On these papers were the names of certain citizens who knew the character of this gambling joint.

One of these citizens was approached a few days later by the owner of the gambling house and false charges were made against him in reference to giving information to the editor and then the owner of the joint said to the citizen words

about to this effect. "I knew within an hour after Yoder's arrest what was on his papers."

Now, Mr. Pollock after reading the editor's papers said they would be sealed in the editors presence. This he soon pretended to do. Now this dirty transaction shows just what the Richmond Police department is being used for, not for the arrest of crooks and the breaking up of the gambling joints but for the protection of gambling joints in their violation of the law.

The owner of this protected gambling joint which operates as a club frequently cashes checks of the young men of good standing and reputation in the town. Just the other day he cashed one for a young clerk for a large amount representing a big slice out of his hard earned savings.

The check was payable to cash as such checks generally are, and of course represented the young man's losses.

There are three of these thriving "clubs" as well as many smaller joints operated for illegal gambling and they vary in respectability from a low dive to a gentlemanly (?) affair.

The police department knows all about them, but fails to act. When there is anything crooked in any department it need not be charged to the men at the bottom. The men in charge are the ones to blame. And the law places the Mayor in charge of the police department, tho the Police Board, has usurped much of the weak Mayor's authority.

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## Next Week.

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### The Mayor Shown up.

Next week The Idea will publish some very interesting correspondence with the Mayor which will cast some light on the question. Why are not the laws enforced?

# Cartoons.

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We regret that we have to appear this week without our usual cartoon.

Next week our cut will be "Executing The Law"

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# Announcement.

## New Shop.

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We have had much trouble lately in getting out The Idea from the New Shop just as we desired. It gives us pleasure to announce that we are not now depending on outside printers to print The Idea. Thanks to a good friend who was kind enough to put up the money, The Idea is now being printed from a shop under our own control and there is no longer any possibility of The Idea's discontinuing publication.

If any one wants to sue now he can sue to his hearts content.

Last week the stapling machine failed to work and so some subscribers had to be content with a loose cover.

Very shortly things will be going more smoothly.

The Idea started publication in July 1906 in Lynchburg, Va. and came out "Semi-occasionally" as the exigencies of the time demanded. During last year it came out monthly until the removal in June to Richmond since which time it has appeared regularly each week. The Idea is here to stay and unless you subscribe you may miss a number and that number may be the one you want.

Better subscribe today. \$2.00 a year, \$1.00 six months.



# Cunningham.

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Now that January 1st has passed let the Council or the Mayor do their or his duty and "reomve from office" according to law, the city collector for "wilful perjury."

There need now be no longer any excuse for this refusal to act on any ones part, for it can not be said that "if we remove now he would go into office on January 1st."

The real trouble lies in the unwillingness to do his duty on the part of the Mayor simply because his duty is a little disagreeable.

All along this has been an Alphonse and Gaston game of politeness between the Mayor and the Council, neither one wanting to take the responsibility. Now since the Council has closed the incident as for as they are concerned the whole matter rests with the Mayor who should have been man enough to assume it in the first place.

Will the Mayor do his duty now? It is a matter of common belief that he will not, because of Mr. Cunningham's influence by virtue of membership in secret organizations.

Prominent men have stated to the editor of this paper that they as members of such organizations were ashamed to say that such membership alone was responsible for the fact that Mr. Cunningham was retained in office contrary to law and the sworn duty of the Mayor.

Let it also be noticed that the investigating committee simply charged Mr. Cunningham with three per cent interest on the money he quietly borrowed from the taxpayers. If you and I get a responsible endorser, even then we have to pay twice that amount, six per cent, and in advance at that.

The action so far is virtually a statement on the part of the city to its employees that if they ever want to misappropriate any of the taxpayers money they may go ahead and do it and if they get caught they may get off by paying three per cent interest.

MR. BUSINESS MAN : Have you ever considered the great advantage of incorporating? Let me point them out to you, and tell you about the low cost.

MR. PROPERTY OWNER : If you have any property for sale or rent, I offer you prompt and efficient service. Consider the advantages of having your interests looked after by a lawyer, and let me tell you about my special proposition.

IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR A GOOD INVESTMENT OR A DESIRABLE HOME my list will interest you.

MR. ANYBODY : Have you adequate protection against fire? There is no better investment than that of fire insurance, and in this line I offer you absolute protection, and prompt and conscientious service. No policy too small to receive my best attention.

IN THE STRICTLY LEGAL LINE MY RECORD SPEAKS FOR ITSELF, AND IS ALWAYS SUBJECT TO YOUR INVESTIGATION.

Special attention given to collections.

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Attorney and Counsellor at Law.

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( OPEN AT NIGHT. )

Public Stenographer and Notary in Office.

By the way we have not seen it in the papers yet that this three per cent has yet been paid.

And the people have to submit until election time.

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## The Defense Fund.

Mean while the crooks are doing their level best to break up this paper by making us expend a thousand dollars or so in defence when the law is absolutely altogether on our side.

The question is will the citizens stand by and refuse to aid in their work of cleaning up Richmond.

Much has already been raised for the legal defence of this paper but more will be needed and any assistance may be telephoned to Rev. Tilden Scherer or left at the office of The Idea 904 Capitol Street. Phone Madison 965-J or Monroe 2708.

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Some people think its awful to call a lie a lie. We think its THE thing to do, when the awful thing of telling the lie has already been done.

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## Testimony in Libel Case.

( Continued. )

A. Whatever he was referring to, he said it in the second trial, at the time of convicting the woman.

Q. And that justified you in saying that it had been operated for years and known to the police as the worst kind of a joint?

A. Yes.

Q. That is all the authority you had for it?

A. That was not all.

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## PRINT IT RIGHT.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure.

Q. What evidence did you have to show that it was under the protection of the Police Department—this Sophy Malloy place?

A. I have proved that they are protecting houses all about town.

Q. All over town?

A. Yes.

Q. Or in one particular part of the town?

A. All over the town.

Q. You have proved that?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. That they are protecting them?

A. Yes.

Q. Give us the names of some of the houses all over town.

A. I don't know them by name.

Mr. Smith: I am getting outside the question.

Mr. Meredith: Don't stop him, justice. He is going into the very matters I want him to.

The Justice: Both of you must confine yourselves strictly to this charge.

Q. You say it is a shame on the fair name of the city that such bold schemes can be pulled off openly in courts of justice. Now, I would like to know if you had any evidence that Mr. Manning or Mr. Douglas Gordon, either one, brought any influence to bear on Justice John, whatsoever, as to the punishment that he would impose against Sophy Malloy?

A. The evidence as I gave it there.

Q. That is all the evidence you had?

A. No, that was not all; you have cut me off from giving all.

Q. Do you say that there was an apparent reluctance of the judge in passing sentence on Sophy Malloy?

A. Do I say it there?

Q. Yes. You meant that, did you?

A. Certainly.

Q. That he did not want to punish her at all?

A. The sentence shows he did not.

Q. That is what you meant then—that he didn't want to punish her—and that the lightness of the verdict was due to the



presence of the police commissioners—you meant that, did you?

A. Certainly— and others; you just take half of it.

Q. Well, you are charged here with libeling the police commissioners. You meant there was no question but what the police commissioners were very much interested in the outcome of the trial of Sophy Malloy? That is what that language means, is it?

A. Read it out.

Q. (Reads) "It would have opened the eyes of the citizens if they could have seen the interest that the political powers had in the outcome, as evidenced by their presence and position in the Police Court."

A. That stands for what it is worth.

Q. You meant by that that they were standing there to influence Justice Crutchfield in his decision?

A. I meant exactly what I said.

Q. That is what it says, don't it?

A. If you say so. When you fire questions so very fast at me, it, of course, is hard for me to keep up with the trend of your thought, and I might be caught in a technical error at any time; therefore, I tell you to confine yourself to the publication.

Q. I say you meant by this that these police commissioners were here to influence, by their presence, Mr. Crutchfield in his decision of the Sophy Malloy case, didn't you?

A. I meant what the article said.

Q. Is not that what the article said?

A. Read it out.

Q. You have it before you. Suppose you read page 9, and say if that is what you meant?

A. I meant what I said.

Q. Did you mean that they were here by their presence to influence the judge in the decision of the case?

A. (Reads) "Her place has enjoyed the favors of those who have a strong influence with the police commissioners and the court, and it would have opened the eyes of the citizens if they could have seen the interest that the political powers had in the outcome, as evidenced by their presence and position in the Police Court." That is very clear.

Q. Now I ask you if you meant by that, that they were here for the purpose of—

A. I said I had a right to think from their position that they had an interest in the outcome of it.

Q. And that is what you meant by your article, that they were here to influence the judge in his decision?

A. I did not say they were here to influence his decision.

Q. And you did not mean that?

A. If I said that I meant it.

Q. You say the judge occupied a very uncomfortable position between his duty, and his desire to please the powers that be. You mean the "powers that be" were the commissioners, among others? They were among the "powers that be"?

A. Certainly they were.

Q. Manning and Douglas were among the "powers that be." Therefore, he occupied a very uncomfortable position between his duty on the one hand, and his desire to please the powers that be, on the other. Is not that there?

A. Yes.

Q. So then you did mean that those two men were here for the purpose of influencing the Judge in his decision of the case?

A. I say I had the right to infer that.

Q. And that is what you meant—you don't deny it, do you?

A. I have not denied anything I said.

Q. You have the right to say that you didn't mean that, if you want to—I give you the chance to do it. You don't deny it, at all. Now, do you know that on conviction of keeping a house of ill-fame a jail punishment was compulsory, under the statute? Did you know that at the time you wrote this article?

A. No.

Q. So, then, when you wrote this article you didn't know even what the law was, and undertook to criticise the justice, without knowing what the law was.

A. I did not criticise him on the law, but on the evidence.

Q. Didn't you criticise him on the punishment?

A. Certainly.

Q. And when you wrote that article you did not take the trouble to find out—you say you didn't know that jail punish-

ment was compulsory for keeping a house of ill-fame, and not compulsory for a disorderly house.

A. I did not know it, and did not care, and do not care yet.

Q. You write these articles without knowing or caring whether they are correct, or not.

A. About little things I do not care.

Q. Things like that you don't care whether you know them or not, and you undertook to criticize the judge without knowing the law on which he acted, and you say you don't care.

A. I did not say what you have said, by a long shot.

Q. The stenographer's report is there, and if you think any injustice has been done you I am willing to stop and have it read. You believed it was true when you wrote it, didn't you?

A. Certainly I did.

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## Welcome!

## TO THE VIRGINIAN.

THE IDEA wishes to extend a most hearty welcome to Richmond's new daily paper THE VIRGINIAN which will very shortly appear.

We rejoice to note that the subscription solicitors are being so heartily received and are finding the people so anxious to help with their money.

It is evident that this turning to the Virginian will hurt very seriously the other two Evening papers and may even send one or both to the wall or else make them reform after seeing the error of their way, and yet they have none but themselves to blame for the dissatisfaction of the public with their actions.

We do not rejoice over their tribulations, but we do rejoice over the success of the new paper.

Knowing who the backers and editors of The Virginian are, we do not hesitate to bespeak for them, a hearty reception at the hands of the Richmond and Virginia public.

May this clean, fair and square paper have a long life of useful prosperity.

Again Welcome! The Virginian.

# Abuse.

The Richmond afternoon papers have worked themselves up into a frenzy over the approaching advent of the new daily and have railed much against it, even before it was born, because its backers through the Christian Advocate have dared to tell the truth, which they term "abuse," about them. To call a snake a snake, or a goose a goose, or a skunk a skunk, or a fool a fool is not abuse; it may be distasteful to the snake or the goose or the skunk or the fool but it is not abuse, and the truth, the disagreeable and sometimes even hurtful, should be told whenever its telling will help the cause of right.

Let the papers keep quiet if they do not want to acknowledge to the public by their bark that they are hit even more than the public knows.

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# Thanks.

A few days ago "a stranger" left \$5.00 at THE IDEA office for the defence fund. Such contributions have also been left on former occasions. We desire to extend to these contributors and also to others who have so kindly given their aid to the Editor in his fight against municipal evils, our heartiest thanks, for the friends of justice have nobly responded and about three hundred dollars has already been raised. This amount will be almost enough for the defense in the criminal libel case. The Saunders suit case however will come up on February 1st and that means more money for defense, then too two other civil suits are pending against the printers of THE IDEA the legal expense of which the editor feels morally responsible for, and in order that these cases may be fought with no expense to the printers The Williams Printing Company, and in order that the obligations may not so embarrass this paper as to force the editor into some better paying business in order to pay them, the people are again acquainted with the facts and earnestly urged to stand by THE IDEA in its fight, which is their fight for better things.

Surely if the editor is willing to be misrepresented and abused and misunderstood and assulted and sued and locked up on false charge and financially embarrassed in order that the people may have their



cause represented and their public affairs watched and their wicked servants called to account,—surely then the people whose fight this is will delight to stand between the editor and his oppressors at least in a financial way. The editor has never dared to make known what it has cost him, either in money or in the trials of domestic life to maintain his stand of opposition to evil. It has cost; and has cost much, and it will cost always to fight evil but THE IDEA WILL continue the fight and will show up the crooks and has never yet called on those whom it desired to hold until AFTER it had accomplished much good for them.

We solicit now again your help, not in the name of the editor but in the name of good government and in the name of those who suffer through the evil deeds of crooks and grafters and those who line their pockets with the peoples money. Don't bother about the editor, he can make a living at other callings, but for the sake of yourself and your city help THE IDEA. Contributions may be left with Tilden Schearer, Ginter Park, City, or at The Idea office.

---

## Rough Language.

The Idea has been criticised, sometimes by its friends for the harsh manner in which it has gone after evil and for the publication of certain evidence which to say the least was not very elegant.

In answer to such criticism let it be said that while other most excellent people have been standing on their dignity for fear they would do something out of place The Idea has accomplished much good and has already put to route so much evil that if its work should cease to day it could point to its accomplishments and not feel ashamed nor have any regrets over its cause.

We are proud of what this paper has done, not for the language it has had to use, but for the good the crooks know it has done.

The forces of evil know ten times as well as the forces of right what this paper has done and the crooks are trembling in their boots today not knowing where they will get it next.

ALFRED L. WALTON, Jr.

FRANK L. HUTCHESON

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P R I Z E S

FOR  
BOYS

**"THE IDEA" WILL GIVE PRIZES TO**  
Newsboy who get the greatest number of weekly subscribers and  
other prizes to those who sell the most copies.

The Contest will begin with the 1st of December and boys desiring to com-  
pete should begin today to work for their weekly subscriptions.

Boys should leave their names at the time of getting their papers so that  
we may keep an accurate record of their sales.

Some time ago THE IDEA gave away a Watch and nine other valuable  
prizes, and the winning boys did good work. One boy selling  
112 copies of THE IDEA of one issue. There is good  
money in it for the boys besides the prizes.

WEEKLY **5c** THE COPY

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

January 22, 1910

No. 4

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Some Hot Correspondence

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with the Mayor.

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FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

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BEING SOME SERMONETTES PUBLISHED WEEKLY FOR THE  
COMMON GOOD AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA. By ADON A.  
YODER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, 904 CAPITOL ST., RICH-  
MOND, VA. PRINTED AT WONDERWHERE, VA.



# Prizes for Boys--December-January Contest

Ten prizes will be given to the ten boys selling the greatest number of IDEAS in December and January. Prizes were recently given out for the November contest. A handsome watch was the first prize, and first quality stag handle pocket knives were given to the nine boys selling the nine next largest numbers. One boy sold 226 copies in the month, thus making, at 2 cents each, \$4.52, besides the watch.

Selling IDEAS pays the boys well even if they do not secure the first prize.

JEWELER

J. S. JAMES

OPTICIAN

7th AND MAIN STS.

We have in our Fall Stock, and are  
showing special good values in

DIAMONDS, WATCHES, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, CUT GLASS, Etc.

We invite your inspection

## TO HOUSEKEEPERS....

You wish the best Flavoring Extracts, Essences and Spices for your Table.

The best Soap, Perfumery and Toilet Requisites for your family and guests.

The best Steel Enameled, Rubber and Glass Goods for your sick.

We have them as low as they can be sold, as well as Medicines of unexcelled quality, which conform strictly to the United States Pure Food and Drug Law.

You want information as to what is best to give medical students at Christmas, January 1st or at Commencement Exercises. This we can give you of the most satisfactory character.

**A. H. ROBINS' PHARMACY,**

200 EAST MARSHALL STREET  
RICHMOND, VA.

50 YEARS EXPERIENCE

GOODS DELIVERED ANYWHERE IN THE CITY.

# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

JANUARY 22, 1910

NO. 4

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,  
904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, at Richmond, Virginia.

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## Some Hot Correspondence.

S. L. Ledman and Mayor  
Richardson.

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Mr. S. L. Ledman the well known Main Street Shoe Man having noticed the continued and open violation of the Sunday closing law wrote on the fourteenth of last month to the Mayor a dignified and respectful letter calling his attention to these violations and asking for information as to how to proceed to see that the law was enforced. His letter follows below :

## Mr. Ledman's Letter.

DECEMBER 14, 1909.

HON. D. C. RICHARDSON,

CITY.

Sir :—

I desire to call your attention to the many fruit and soda-water stores that are run wide open on Sunday, and would like to ask, if you are the proper one to whom this report should be made ?

If so, would like to ask your Honor; why they are allowed this privilege, when there is a law forbidding any one to do business of this kind on Sunday.

Have they any more right to keep open on Sunday than I would have?

If you are not the proper one to report this matter to please advise me whom I shall take the matter up with.

Your prompt reply will be appreciated.

Yours very truly,

S. L. LEDMAN.

## The Mayor Dodges Tells the Merchant to Com- municate with Chief.

On the same day Mayor Richardson replied to Mr. Ledman that if he, Mr. Ledman, would play policeman and appear against anyone, such one would be "reported to court," adding "If the police do not investigate your complaint please let me know." Below we print this letter of the Mayor.

## The Mayor's Reply.

DECEMBER 14, 1909.

S. L. LEDMAN, ESQ.,  
RICHMOND, VIRGINIA.

Dear Sir:—

In answer to your letter of December 14th, I desire to say that some time ago I wrote a letter to the Chief of Police calling his attention to alleged violations of the law prohibiting work on Sunday, and directing him to report all such cases to the court.

If you will communicate to the Chief of Police, either in person or by letter, that any person is keeping his place of business open and doing business on Sunday, the matter will be investigated; and if the evidence justifies, the party will be reported to the court. If the police do not investigate your complaint please let me know.

Very respectfully,

D. C. Richardson, Mayor.

---

# Mr. Ledman, Chief Werner.

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Mr. Ledman, seeing that the Mayor did not desire to enforce the law, called on the Chief of Police and asked him to look into the matter.

The Chief became indignant at his attention being called to his lack of law enforcement for he knows as well as every other citizen that Richmond is a wide open town on Sunday and Sunday selling goes on under the eyes of the police each Sunday.



The Chief refused to act, pretending to be ignorant of the lack of law enforcement by asking Mr. Ledman where this thing was going on to which Mr. Ledman replied "all over Town." Then the Chief asked in what particular place and Mr. Ledman informed him he did not come to make any complaint against any particular merchant for many were guilty, but starting near his store he said that, beginning with 7th and Main there were two stores right on the corner open every Sunday. Then the Chief said he would summons Mr. Ledman to appear against these merchants to which Mr. Ledman replied that he would not appear as he had no complaint to make of these men more than of others, and that he had made his statement only to help the police who were paid to do this work to see where the law was violated. Mr. Douglas Gordan then came into the room and told the Chief to go ahead and summons Mr. Ledman, to which Mr. Ledman vehemently protested. This shows how the police department succeeds in protecting the violators of the law by summoning into court any citizen who dares suggest to them that they are not doing their duty.

Mr. Ledman was summonsed into court and told Justice Crutchfield how it all came about, read the correspondence with the Mayor and stated he had no complaint to make to the Chief against these men but had called on the chief at the instance of the Mayor, who had directed him so to do in order simply to show that the laws were being violated all over town.

The Police Justice fined the merchants charged the small sum of \$5.00 each but did not require any bond of them to keep the peace as the law provides and so these same merchants have been open as usual since then.

The following week Mr. Ledman wrote again to the Mayor showing him how his, the Mayor's suggestion to see the Chief had amounted to nothing as far as breaking up the law violations was concerned, and put the question again up to the Mayor in the following letter.

# Ledman to The Mayor.

LETTER NO. 2

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## Shows up the Police Department Protecting Criminals.

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December 22, 1909.

Hon. D. C. Richardson,  
Mayor of the City of Richmond,  
City Hall.

Sir:—

Following up our recent correspondence in reference to violations of the law prohibiting work on Sunday I have called on the Chief of Police and as a result two merchants on Main street were fined in the police court last week.

I write now to let you know that I am informed that these and many other merchants were open again last Sunday and that there appears to be no attempt on the part of your Police Department to break up this business by enforcing the law. When complaint is made the one calling attention to it is compelled to go into court and testify to that fact but the Police Department, even after conviction, lets the offender violate the same law on the next Sunday and does not even arrest him again altho they know his offence which is committed openly before their eyes every Sunday,

Being convinced therefore that complaints made to the Chief are not followed up by due action on the part of the Department I again bring the matter to your attention and beg to ask if it is not in your province to see that the Department does act in the premises. (Continued on page 8.)

# Auditor Warren

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## Won't Show Wine Bill.

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### Taft Day Jefferson Hotel Bill of \$2,831.25

Is None Of The People's Business.

Though The People Furnish The Coin.

---

At the time of the meeting of the Taft Celebration committee to pass on the bills amounting to nearly \$7,000.00 for the expenses of that days reception of the President, The Idea showed the people how Mr. Grundy of that committee attempted to have the committee proceedings secret but failed in this, did not read out any itemized statement of his part of the expenditures altho one of the members asked for it. The committee however passed on it without having it publicly read. The Idea at the time promised to look into the matter and get the detailed figures showing how much was spent for wines and other drinks.

A few days ago we called on the clerk of that committee for these figures and he referred us to the auditor to whom the bills had been sent.

We went to the auditor's office and a clerk there told us that they were very busy and asked that we call on the following morning. This we did, and this time we were referred to the auditor himself. The Auditor, Mr. Warren, asked that a written request be made for the information. On our proposition to do so then and there, he sent for the papers, but before they arrived, changed his mind and said he

## THE IDEA

would not show them without a written order from the council finance committee.

We asked if he would state that in writing as he had asked us to do. He said he would. On returning to the office a letter was addressed to the auditor requesting him for his reasons in writing for refusing to let a citizen see this itemized bill.

Instead of answering in writing as we understood him to say he would, he discourteously sent back word that he would not enter into any correspondence on the subject. It thus appears that there is not only something in that bill which the committee is ashamed to make public but it appears evident to the editor that the auditor had special instructions not to let this matter out and that this so embarrassed him as to make him act in the manner he did.

Will the people stand for this? Is it your business how your money is spent?

Can the council spend your money for wine feasts and refuse to let you know the details of it? Is this America or is it Russia?

If they had done rightly would they not gladly make it public? Men love darkness rather than light only because their deeds are evil.

It was a shame, even if they had the right, to welcome a President whom they knew would not drink, with a drink feast.

The editor saw at least one Councilman on that occasion drunk.

Its like the sot who got drunk to welcome the preacher. Was the celebration for Taft or for councilmen anyway.

Let the people know how much these wines cost. And let them know how ALL their money is spent. Its their business MORE than it is the council's.

We were referred to the finance committee, a thing which does not exist except on occasion of meetings. Besides the finance committee had nothing to do with this expenditure. The council itself did this through a special committee which has gone out of existence.

No one has a right to keep this matter from the people and no reason exists for it except shame of their unwarranted acts.

Let the Auditor explain.

Meantime let us say; THIS IS NOT THE LAST OF THIS.



May I also ask that you let me know what action you take so that I may act accordingly, for I have determined to find out who is responsible for such open and flagrant violation of the law.

Very respectfully yours,

S. L. LEDMAN.

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## The Mayor Refuses to Act.

---

Wants Ledman to do what he the  
Mayor had taken oath to do.

Admits being Guilty by saying "Applies to Me."

---

December 22, 1909.

S. L. Ledman, Esp.,

Richmond, Va.

Sir:—

In answer to your letter of December 22nd, which was received this afternoon, I desire to say.—

If you know that any person has violated the law in laboring at his trade or calling on Sunday, it is your duty to report it to the Police Department, and I will see that the complaint is investigated.

If you know of any dereliction of duty on the part of any officer or member of the Police Force, make your complaint to me, and I will see that the charge is investigated by the Board of Police Commissioners.

I despise the covert threat in your letter so far as it applies to me.

Yours truly,

D. C. Richardson—Mayor.

This shows that the Mayor is merely a figure head, afraid to do what he has sworn to do, backing out of his sworn duty by resenting any inquiry on the part of a sovereign citizen into his own affairs as conducted by his servant the Mayor.

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# Ashamed of Mayor

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## Ledman Replies.

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### Shows Up The Mayor.

Citizens Must Enforce Law Instead of Mayor and 125  
Able Bodied Policemen Who Are Paid by the  
People to Enforce the People's Laws.

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January 8, 1910.

Hon. D. C. Richardson,  
Mayor of Richmond, Va.

Sir:—

In reply to your letter of the 22nd, I have to say that your statement referring me to the police department completely begs the question for it was because of their practical refusal to act that I wrote to you as per your former letter.

You state that you "will see that the complaint is investigated" if I report that "any person has violated the law in laboring at his trade or calling on Sunday;" this is exactly the complaint I made to you in my last letter.

I showed that the law was violated, and that I reported it to the police department, and yet there has been no attempt to enforce the law which is sufficient to break up this Sunday selling if the law was enforced by those who are sworn to do so.

I am informed that many of these confectioners were open again on the following Sunday as usual and not a single one was reported.

You state you "will investigate any dereliction of duty on the part of any officer" if I "make complaint to you."

I did that very thing in my last letter to you but the charge does not appear to have been investigated.

And I ask again why is it that your police department don't report these parties.

If a citizen can see the law is being violated why can't the ones that are paid by the tax payers and sworn to enforce the law see that the law is being violated every Sunday and report same to court without having a citizen to do the duty of a paid and sworn officer who sees the law violated every Sunday.

From the tone of the latter part of your letter I infer that you do not like to be approached on this question and have no desire to help citizens ascertain why their public servants, in charge of whom you are, do not obey their laws.

I wrote to you as a sovereign citizen to his public servant and for reply I get an evasive answer unbecoming a servant.

I do not know of any threat ever made in my letter applying to you or to any one else but your reference to such a thing leads me to believe that you think you are the one responsible for the fact I referred to of lack of law enforcement for that is the only part of my letter that I can see you could possibly have had in mind when you wrote your last sentence.

The law is sufficient. and you have sworn to enforce the law, but it is evident to me that if the law in this case is enforced it will have to be done by the citizens.

I am ashamed of you for allowing this open violation of our Sunday laws.

Yours truly,

S. L. LEDMAN.

# Son of Chief-Police

## Testifies for Criminal.

When Charles White, the notorious negro who has been selling cocaine on Seventeenth street for years with the knowledge of the police, was being tried recently in the Hustings Court, officers B. H. Werner, son of the Chief, and Wiltshire and Smith all went on the stand to testify for White.

We have been informed repeatedly ever since starting The Idea that the only reason White had not gotten his deserts long ago was that he "stood-in" with the police and ugly stories have been going around that he could do what could not be done by others simply because he had a pull, and it is even stated that many favors were granted him while under arrest and in jail, as he has often been during his lawless career, by those high up in the governmental affairs of the city.

It begins to look exceedingly like there must be some truth in these repeated rumors where the son of the Chief of Police can go on the stand in defence of the most notorious law violator in the city.

It is a matter of common knowledge that White's place has long been cocaine headquarters, and there are many who thinks that The Idea's attacks on crime and vice and The Ideas exposure of the criminal alliance between the Police Department and crime is responsible for the fact that White The Cocaine King is at last convicted.

Notice that Pollock was attorney for white.



## Extract From a Letter.

I have been following the details of your trial very closely, and am very much gratified that you were so completely at home in all the answers tho the queries of your tormentors. If I were able I would give you more substantial assistance than I do.

Yours sincerely,  
A FRIEND.

---

## Do You Shave?

WHY A NOTICE OF INFRINGEMENT WAS SERVED ON  
THE "SHARP-O" CO. OF 308 MUTUAL BUILDING,  
RICHMOND, VA., BY THE GILLETTE SALES CO.

THE GILLETTE SALES CO. say that the "SHARP-O" CO. is infringing on their patent when they sharpen dull Gillette blades. That you can not have Gillette blades sharpened after they get dull. Now, does the Gillette Sales Co. own the blades you shave with and pay for, or do you? For the past three years The Sharp-O Co. has been sharpening all makes of safety razor blades for 30c. per dozen and their work has proved entirely satisfactory to every one that has had work done by them. They have thousands of letters from nearly every State in the United States testifying to the merits of their work and it is for this reason that the notice was served on them. If they had done bad work do you suppose that The Gillette Sales Co. would have tried to stop them. It is because that The Sharp-O Co. does its work too well and that they are hurting the trade of the Company that raised the price of blades from 50c. to \$1.00. If you want to save money and get the best shaves that you ever had in your life send or take your blades to the companys office at 308 Mutual Building or leave them at T. A. MILLER'S (Inc.) 519 E. Broad St. and you will never regret it. All Safety Razor Blades are 30c. per dozen. Old Style Razors 15c. each. Work guaranteed. (Adv.)

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## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure.

# Whiskey Dominated Papers.

---

## Some Plain Talk.

Richmond Seems to be peculiarly cursed with whiskey papers. The Times-Dispatch and The News-Leader in particular have done their level best to defend this monster evil even to the extent of being decidedly unfair to those who dared disagree with them by publishing erroneous reports of their attitudes and spoken words and by withholding from the people such information as would lead to argue for an abolition of the saloons.

We have had occasion in the past to call attention to the position which another little whiskey sheet, The News Bulletin, published weekly, takes on the question. This little paper on a former occasion made a vicious attack on the editor of The Idea by publishing an editorial false statement. In their edition of last week are two editorials, from which we quote below, the one putting President Smithdeal and the other putting the editor of this paper in a false light before the people. The first makes it appear that "Mr. Smithdeal" "withdrew his objections" "to the operation of a bar" and calls it "serious mistake,"

As we learn it, every objection that Mr. Smithdeal has ever had to bars he still has and he has withdrawn and taken back nothing. He has always been a consistent and persistent enemy of the saloon and has not let up one whit in his fight by refusing to be used by a malicious police department to help oppose the transfer of a bar licence from a bar on Marshall street to one on Broad street.

This same News Bulletin then proceeds to malign and slander the editor of this paper for doing exactly what many of the best merchants and professional men in the city did, namely, refuse to be used by a malicious police department to destroy the value of a hotel property by falsely stating

that the location was not as suitable as another on Marshall street for a saloon. The News Bulletin sarcastically states "Mr. Adon A. Yoder the man of many parts, editor of The Idea and general reformer of men and things has at last found something which he can heartily endorse. — This laudable object is a bar room."

We desire to state so that he who runs may read that that statement is a lie, for the editor of The Idea has never heartily endorsed any bar-room and never will. We will state further that no newspaper man in the city could easily be ignorant of the fact that that etatement is a lie for altho the public in general may have gotten the wrong impression of the proceedings referred to, it was well known among newspaper men for a long time that the question was not one of endorsing a bar-room but of transferring a bar license from Marshall street to Broad Street.

We don't know and don't care at this writing who wrote that editorial for the paper had some 26 editors when we last counted the list, but we want to state that he showed which side of the great moral fight he was on by attacking, not the other gentlemen who took the same stand as the editor but he attacked only those two who are the greatest foes of whiskey and saloons. When one spends his energies fighting such men you don't have to get a microscope to tell how soaked in whiskey his sentiments are.

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## Wilber Griggs, Unfit.

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Wilber Griggs who sat as police Justice in the trial of the editor was as we stated formerly legally unqualified to sit as justice in any trial.

Morally he was unfit because he had stated that because of The Idea's former criticism of him the editor should be run out of Richmond. (We have evidence for the witness stand to this effect.)

When one has criticised another it is contrary both to justice and to court practice for such a one to sit as judge over the other.

Yet Griggs did this and the proceedings of the trial showed his unfitness. When the editor gets a fair legal trial he has no fear of not being acquitted.

# Woods Election.

## Contrary Both to Justice and The Spirit of the Law.

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### Richmonders Monopolise State Offices.

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People all over the state are indignant at the fact that the penitentiary board, one of which was Jas. B. Wood, has recently elected as head of the state penitentiary this same Mr. Wood their fellow-member.

Especially are they indignant because the board composed entirely of Richmond men had before them the name of E. M. Milstead of Newport News who it appears was much better qualified for the work than Mr. Wood, who is employed in the C. & O. offices here.

Even if Mr. Wood were qualified for the work he would be morally ineligible to the office for it is contrary to the spirit of our institutions for a person to have anything officially to do with the deciding of any question in which he has a personal financial interest. And yet it can not be denied that Mr. Woods membership in the board alone is responsible for the influence that elected him superintendent.

Moreover it is safe to assume that Mr. Wood is not fit for such responsible work because of the fact that when one has served in a subordinate capacity till old age he can't adjust himself to a work calling for decision and leadership.

The vote stood Easley, Patton and Cohen for Mr. Wood, and only one, Mr. W. B. Bradley, for Mr. Milstead, altho Mr. Wood did cast his complimentary (?) vote for Milstead after working against him.

Such action is properly called two-faced.



As we go to press we are delighted with the notice recently out that ex-Senator A. F. Thomas, that forceful and fearless statesman of Lynchburg, will very shortly issue from the presses of The Neale Publishing Co., of New York, his profound but intensely interesting book, "The Slavery of Progress," on which he has been working for some time.

Senator Thomas, in his conversation and writing, reminds one of the writings of Thomas Jefferson, so filled is he with a broad wisdom of the fundamentals of government, an ardent love of the people, and an abiding faith in our democratic institutions.

It has been our valued pleasure to talk with the Senator along the lines of his present book, and we predict for him not only its hearty reception wherever true knowledge of a remedy for the evils of American progress is desired, but also a brilliant and honored career in the official and advisory service of his country just as soon as the American people are aroused to their need for the services of *a man*.

---

We are glad to say that The Idea has printed the last of the evidence in the Police Court trial. We have skipped much that was immaterial, but felt it due the Editor and the people to know not only the truth of the trial in which they are so vitally interested, but also how unfair the Richmond daily papers are in reporting such cases. In this detailed report by one of the best court stenographers in the State of Virginia we have shown an absolutely correct report of the trial, which furnishes the people with an entirely and radically different view of the case from that given by the biased and one-sided reports furnished in the Richmond daily papers, which would delight to see this paper destroyed because it not only furnishes the truth about the political crooks, but about their methods of suppression of the news and distortion of the facts.

ALFRED L. WALTON, Jr.

FRANK L. HUTCHESON

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**P R I Z E S**

**FOR  
BOYS**

**"THE IDEA" WILL GIVE PRIZES TO**  
Newsboys who get the greatest number of weekly subscribers and  
other prizes to those who sell the most copies.

The Contest will begin with the 1st of December and boys desiring to com-  
pete should begin today to work for their weekly subscriptions.

Boys should leave their names at the time of getting their papers so that  
we may keep an accurate record of their sales.

Some time ago THE IDEA gave away a Watch and nine other valuable  
prizes, and the winning boys did good work. One boy selling  
112 copies of THE IDEA of one issue. There is good  
money in it for the boys besides the prizes.

WEEKLY **5c** THE COPY

# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

Vol. IV

January 29, 1910

No. 5



- Executing The Law. -

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YODER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, 904 CAPITOL ST. RICH-  
MOND, VA. PRINTED BY THE ILLINOIS STATE PRESS



## Prizes for Boys—February-March Contest

Ten prizes will be given to the ten boys selling the greatest number of IDEAS in December and January. Prizes were recently given out for the November contest. A handsome watch was the first prize, and first quality stag handle pocket knives were given to the nine boys selling the nine next largest numbers. One boy sold 226 copies in the month, thus making, at 2 cents each, \$4.52, besides the watch.

Selling IDEAS pays the boys well even if they do not secure the

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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

JANUARY 29, 1910

NO. 5

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,  
904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, at Richmond, Virginia.

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## Law Not Enforced.

It is a Farce of the Worst Sort.

Who Is Responsible?

---

Some months ago the writer stopped on the corner of First and Broad streets on a Sunday night after the close of church services.

A few feet away the clerks in a store were selling their wares without any attempt at concealment other than the lowering of the curtains on one side of the room.

A policeman in full uniform was standing near and in such position that a simple turn of the head would have enabled him to see the transactions going on inside.

The writer addressed the officer about as follows :

"Officer, is it not against the law for these stores to be selling their goods in this way on Sunday?"

I wish that every citizen of this community who has any self-respect or any respect for the law of the land would take note of this officer's reply. Here it is :

"YES, IT IS AGAINST THE LAW, BUT SO LONG AS THEY KEEP THEIR CURTAINS DOWN WE DON'T BOTHER THEM."

There we have the situation in a nutshell.

Is it any wonder that crime is rampant; that criminals flourish under the nose of decent citizens and within easy grasp of the sworn officers of the people's laws?

Does anybody think for an instant that that patrolman was acting upon his own responsibility and initiative when he put that very remarkable construction upon the law and his duty as an officer of the law?

If not upon his own responsibility, then upon whose responsibility or authority was he acting, or refusing to act?

Naturally, we think of the Chief of Police first.

Do we really believe the Chief responsible for such instructions to the force?

My inquiries into the matter justify my belief that the Chief is not responsible.

Who then? Naturally those next in authority above the Chief—the Mayor of the city and those associated with him on the board of Police Commissioners.

Apparently the matter must rest finally with them.

In discussing this question it must be borne in mind that the writer has nothing to say about the justice, or expediency, or wisdom of the law which prohibits a citizen from laboring at his trade or calling on the Sabbath day or compelling or permitting his servants or employees to so labor.

The great big outstanding fact is that THE LAW DOES SO PROHIBIT and prescribes a definite penalty.

How long will law-abiding citizens stand for this sort of thing?—LAW.

# Police Officials Usurp Court Authority.

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## Executive vs. Judicial.

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The duly elected and solemnly sworn representatives of the people of the state of Virginia have met in the Virginia Assembly, and have enacted a clear and positive law on the subject of Sunday selling and have prescribed a definite penalty for its violation.

Furthermore, the organic law of the state has created and defined the nature of certain offices which are solemnly charged with the duty of enforcing the laws enacted by the representatives of the sovereign citizenship.

This same organic law has created and clearly defined the nature of certain courts which are solemnly charged with the administration of justice and the interpretation of the law as it applies to any particular case brought before it.

LEGISLATIVE.

EXECUTIVE.

JUDICIAL.

Anybody who knows the first principles of a democratic government knows the definite and distinct existence of these three departments of governmental machinery.

He knows too, something of the emphasis that has been laid, and rightfully laid, upon the importance of confining these three departments to their respective duties—one must not assume the duties of the other nor interfere with the other in the performance of its duty.

(Continued on page 15.)



# Mild Means Don't Work.

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## Harsh Criticism Necessary.

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In view of the grand farce that is being played with the people's laws, by the people's sworn and paid officers, under the eyes of the people themselves, the Mayor's letters to Mr. S. L. Ledman, the respectable, law-abiding, tax-paying shoe-merchant, as published in last week's IDEA, are most remarkable documents.

Many good people criticise A. A. Yoder and his publication for saying such harsh things about such courteous, gentlemanly and refined officials as our present Mayor.

Mr. Ledman's experience in this case shows how exceedingly difficult it is for anything remedial to be accomplished by mild and ordinary means. I have had practically the same experience with the police department. Courteous protest has been made from time to time against certain conditions; the Chief of Police has always been courtesy personified; he has seemed perfectly frank and anxious to accommodate, but the evils have gone on just the same and the mild protests have come to naught until the harsher language and more personal attacks have appeared in this paper.

I in no sense desire to raise a great "hullabaloo" about the awful enormity of Sunday selling. Personally it doesn't matter a "baubee" to me whether the merchant's sell on Sunday or not. I don't have to buy unless I choose so to do. But my contention is that such a perverted and dangerous idea of law and law enforcement as is suggested by the statement of the policeman quoted at the beginning of the

article entitled "Law not Enforced" in this issue—such an idea as this disseminated among the people, especially among those who are criminally inclined already, and taught to our children as they grow up, strikes at the underlying first principles of law and order and good citizenship.

If the people don't want this or any other law let them instruct their representatives in the Legislature to repeal it. But the people have said through representatives that they do want it. Then the sworn executives officers should enforce it or resign.

Let us see where this remarkable attitude toward law enforcement leads to :

I counted one night in half an hour fifty-nine separate and distinct houses almost within a stone's throw of each other, which bore the reputation of being houses of ill-fame.

In addition to these fifty-nine in this vicinity there were others in other places that I knew about and doubtless still others that I did not know about.

To my own mind there is no worse crime in the category of crime than this of running houses of ill-fame and trafficking in the virtue of boys and girls (for it is this and nothing more.) The law plainly forbids it and prescribes a penalty.

Yet here they are, wide open, with their signs on the doors, and men and women coming and going by day and by night. Officers in uniform stop and talk with these women at their doors.

And that remarkable body, the Board of Police Commissioners, of which the Mayor is an ex-office member, presumes to say that it is not well or wise or prudent to enforce the people's law on this subject. "The people have made the law; the people have chosen us and (in the case of the Mayor, the Chief and the Force) pay us salaries to enforce their laws, but we don't think it wise, so long as these women do not keep a "rough house" or become too brazen in their crime."

That is some government for you ! That is law enforcement of a high order ! That is realization of official responsibility and an illustration of a most remarkable conception of the fact that a "public office is a public trust" ! That conduces all right to law and order and the diminution of crime ! That is a splendid idea of good citizenship to hand down to our children !

But let us see further :

I went privately and in the most courteous manner possible to the Chief of Police and brought these matters to his attention and protested against them.

I stated to him as I now state to the people of Richmond (and there are hundreds of men in Richmond who know I tell the plain fact) that these criminal places are notorious violators of the laws prohibiting the sale of intoxicants without a license; and that I could bring sworn evidence to prove this fact.

Furthermore, that they not only sell without a license but sell on Sunday, thus adding another to their already double crime.

What did the Chief do? Nothing. Nor did he undertake to do anything.

Here is your courteous protest! Absolutely worthless, as was that of Ledman to the Mayor.

It is not a question with me as to whether or not The Idea always tells the truth—it would be a marvelous exception among secular publications if it did—but the fact remains that the people have been sitting quietly all these years until this remarkable state of affairs has gotten so into the common atmosphere and somebody has gotten such a grip on the inside regime that nobody apparently has the nerve even to protest, however much he may disapprove.

I contend that A. A. Yoder and his publication—or something of the sort—is absolutely necessary to create a sentiment to counteract what to my mind is a most dreadful state of affairs.

I have absolutely no apologies to offer for espousing the cause of law and order and good citizenship and COMMON RIGHT.

More about these questions later for the fight is just begun. — LAW.

# Our Old Friend Clyde W. Saunders.

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## Still a Factor in our Legislative Halls.

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The other day we meandered over to the House of Delegates to see how the wise men were conducting things and you can imagine our surprise on seeing ex-city committeeman Clyde W. Saunders promenading around the Speaker's stand, leaning on the clerk's desk, and finally, during debate on the floor, going up behind the Speaker's desk and sitting down on the floor where few could see him, and engaging the Speaker Mr. Byrd in a heated argument.

Now be it known that the day or so before in was announced in the daily papers that all outsiders except representatives of the press would be rigidly excluded from the hall, so we began to wonder why our friend Clyde had such a pull and was so important a personage. On inquiring we found that Mr. Saunders had the contract for printing the house bills but since that offered no reason for his personal appearance in the legislature we made further inquiries and behold what we learned.

We learned that the House has a printer and the Senate has a printer. The House printer prints the house documents and the Senate printer prints the Senate documents.

Now in the past when a Senate document would come over to the House it has been known to somehow or other get marked as if it were a House document and therefore the House printer would print it instead of the Senate printer who should have had the work.

In view of this fact do you wonder at seeing our friend, the enemy, Mr. Clyde W. Saunders, hovering over the clerk's desk, sitting in the clerk's chair or argacing SUBROSA with Speaker Byrd.

(Continued on page 10.)



# Executing ? the Law.

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The word execute according to the dictionary has two meanings which are almost exactly opposite and contradictory the one to the other.

The one meaning is to enforce and thus make alive; while the other meaning is to destroy or kill.

The Mayor, D. C. Richardson, has evidently gotten the wrong pig by the ear in executing the law in Richmond. Instead of enforcing it and thus giving effect and life to it he kills the law, destroys it, makes it of no effect, EXECUTES it in it's secondary sense.

He has taken an oath to execute the laws of the commonwealth and he knows he is violating that oath when he executes the laws by destroying the laws of the commonwealth as he is doing by refusing to enforce the Sunday laboring law, the house of ill-fame law, the liquor selling on Sunday law and the liquor selling without a license law.

These laws he not only refuses to enforce but by his actions he encourages, aids and abets in the violation of these laws and thus becomes a law breaker himself, a party to the crime.

The Idea has shown that the executive branch of the government in Richmond is actually protecting criminals in breaking these four laws and yet the Mayor sleeps on.

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## A Bushel of Corn.

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From a bushel of corn a distiller gets four gallons of whiskey which retails at \$16; the government gets \$4.40; the farmer who raised the corn gets 40c; the railroad gets \$1.00; the manufacturer gets \$3.60; the retailer gets \$7. the consumer gets six months and the policeman gets paid for running him in.

# To the Legislature.

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In making laws would it not be of inestimable value to first provide some way of carrying them into effect. Your laws recently enacted are defied before your very eyes by the Mayor of Richmond, a very good sort of a fellow, negatively, but positively worth nothing, without back bone to do anything until the powers that be have spoken their favor, and therefore a menace to the community.

Consider a moment your position. You create the office of Mayor, prescribe his method of election and his duties and require his oath to perform your bidding in statute expressed.

After getting into office he throws his oath and your laws overboard and brings into contempt your enactments and you the legislative, the people in representation quietly look on.

Unless the sworn officers of the law enforce the law how can it be expected that Virginia will be a law abiding and law respecting community.

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# The Saunders Suit.

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The Saunders suit against the publisher and the printers of The Idea for \$25,000.00 will come up in the Law and Equity Court on Tuesday next, February 1st.

Look out for some interesting developments and incidentally the putting of the kibosh on all these suits against citizens for talking about their public servants.

---

Now is the time to begin to think who you will have as councilmen for the next term.

The evil forces must be opposed and must be beaten. Pollock, Mills, Huber, Peters, Pollard and others must go. Who will you have to succeed them.

## Our Old Friend Clyde Saunders.

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(Continued from page 7.)

Again a few days later this same printer man Mr. Saunders was much in evidence around the Speaker's desk and after some rather officious promenading around the sacred precincts he took a seat next the clerks desk.

Very soon Mr. Cox, member of the House from Richmond arose in his seat and moved the printing of 500 copies of a certain bill or resolution. The bill was passed without dissent, and Mr. Saunders arose, rather significantly we must confess, and left the hall. Now we would enquire why it was necessary to print 500 copies when the House has only 100 members and the Senate only 40.

When the printing bill runs into the extravagant thousands then you may understand why The Idea opposes such men as Clyde Saunders ever touching any of the people's business. Maybe you had better ask your legislator to look into this business for you. — But perhaps he is under obligations to Clyde W. Saunders.

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## The Three Spenders.

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### Mills Pollard Grundy

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The Finance Committee of the City Council has just named a sub-committee of three to formulate the budget for 1910. That sub-committee is as follows:

Chairman H. R. Hollard, Jr., Barton H. Grundy, and Morgan R. Mills.

The Journal in announcing the sub-committee, adds: "These appointments are generally satisfactory to the Council."

Now many of the people do not know how important that

little announcement is nor do they know how significant that little remark of the paper's is, for they do not know exactly what "formulate the budget for 1910" means.

A word of explanation is necessary.

We do not hesitate to say that that committee announcement is perhaps the most important one made in the past twelve months, for that committee is the one which decides how the City's Money will be spent during the coming year.

Its duty is to apportion among the various departments the expected receipts of the City Treasury.

And notice who compose that committee: First; H. R. Pollard Jr., the last man for the office by reason of the fact that his many private interests as a real estate man make him an improper one to determine how the city's funds shall be spent. Next; Barton Grundy, who besides being recognized as very extravagant with the city's money is by far the most undemocratic member of the city council. He it is who had charge of the wastful expenditures for wine feasting on the Taft celebration day, and then so hushed the matter up that to this day the people do not know how their money was spent. Thirdly and lastly; (Angels and Ministers of grace! defend us!) Morgan R. Mills one of the two smoothest men in the city council.

These three, Pollard, Grundy and Mills are to apportion the city's millions for 1910. As the court cryer says "God save the commonwealth," so say we "God save the city" from such a committee.

You see this sub-committee gets in its work and reports to the SECRET meeting of the finance committee and that committee's report some night about 11 or 12 o'clock goes rail-roading through a sleepy and tired council and the work is done for 1910.

Still there are some people who do not seem to care enough about how their city is run to study the commission form of government which would never make it possible for men of such standing and no direct responsibility to all the people to have the deciding of such important questions. Again we say "God save the city."



# Eat no Meat!

---

Now that the Meat Trust is beginning to squeeze the life blood out of the poor by forcing the price of meat clear up to the ceiling, let every patriotic citizen join with the labor organizations and, even if they can afford to eat meat, boycott the Meat Trust by refusing to buy meat for a season.

"If eating meat causeth my brother to offend I will eat no meat while the world standeth" has another and potent meaning today.

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## CITY POLITICS.

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Rumor has it that Clyde Saunders is slated for the Penitentiary Board in place of J. B. Wood and that Morgar R. Mills is booked for Wood's place on the Board of Aldermen. Go to see your Alderman today and protest against the election of Morgan Mills whose candidacy has already been announced.

He knows that despite his tremendous following among the city employees and the machine element The Idea will most likely beat him for council re-election next Spring.

If however he succeeds Wood on the Aldermanic Board he will hold over, for the board is not elected this year in toto as the council is.

It is also sincerely hoped that Judge Mann will not only not appoint Saunders on the Penitentiary Board but will see to it that some other part of the state has something to do with the running of the State Penitentiary besides a few Richmonders.

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## The Criminal Libel Case.

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The Criminal Libel Case against the Editor of The Idea brought by Manning, Gordon and Crutchfield was postponed from January 24th to February 11th.

# Annex Manchester

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## So we can go into Debt.

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The other day the papers reported opposition on the part of Messrs J. P. Blanch, N. W. Bowe, James Caskie and others to annexation on the ground of increase in taxes. In Mondays paper, and on the first page this time mind you, The Times-Dispatch quotes an interview with H. R. Pollard, Jr. in which he claims that as a result of annexation, Richmond would be able to increase her bonded indebtedness. Now we would enquire whether any fool can't see that increasing indebtedness is not the same as raising taxes, and whether in the long run it must not raise the tax rate in order to pay the debt. Debt is the bane of government exactly the same as of individuals and Richmond has already overstepped the legal limits of its bonded indebtedness by a twisting of the law on the part of the City Attorney H. R. Pollard, father of this H. R. Pollard Jr. Now we are asked to annex Manchester in order that we may borrow more money.

Just last year alone the city of Richmond borrowed more money than its total receipts from taxes and licenses combined. Just think of it. Its like a man making a salary of \$1,000.00 a year going in debt at the rate of \$1,000.00 a year. Richmond is in debt already more than ten million dollars and yet the chairman of the finance committee Mr. Pollard would have us annex Manchester so that we can go into debt more.

Richmond paid in interest on bonded debt last year about \$400,000 which is nearly one-fourth of its total receipts from taxes and licenses, which after all is the only real income of the city. Its like a man making \$100.00 a month spending \$25.00 of it in interest on his debts.

This is what our bunglesome city government has brought us to and now the chairman of the finance committee, which by the way holds its meetings in secret, asks us to annex Manchester so that we can go into debt even more. When you have to pay out one-fourth of your income for interest, and your tax rate is \$1.40, that means that your tax rate is about 35c. more than it would be if you were not in debt. Altho we are paying 35c. out of \$1.40 in interest, they tell us we must annex Manchester in order to pay more interest, and all this in spite of the fact that according to law Manchester can not be annexed in time to show her population in the next census as an increase to Richmond.

Understand us, on general principles we are in favor of annexation, but not with the present cumbersome extravagant unecomonical government which is corrupted by waste and graft.

When Richmond gets a decent form of government, then will be time to annex Manchester.

When Richmond can run its own affairs then will be time to try to run Manchester's.

Richmond must get better men in her councils before it can get a better form of government and it will be a few years yet before the Richmond Government is either morally or physically able to undertake greater things.

The Richmond city government is at present rotten not only in form but in many instances in personell, and it is up to the citizens to get government by commission before they agree to the annexation of more territory for the corrupt politicians to grow fat on.

## Police Officials Usurp Court Authority.

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(Continued from page 3.)

Going back now; The Legislature of Virginia has said that no person shall labor at his trade or calling on the Sabbath day except in works of necessity or charity. A penalty is prescribed for the violation of this law.

These executive officers (in Richmond they are the Mayor, now Hon. D. C. Richardson; the Chief of Police, now Major Louis Werner; and possibly by some stretch of imagination the Board of Police Commissioners, now Messrs Manning, Gordon, Duke, Landerkin, Walsh, Thomas and McCarthy.) — are solemnly charged and sworn to look out offenders against this law and bring them before the proper judicial officer, who in this case is the Police Justice Hon. John J. Crutchfield. It is the duty of this latter officer to hear the evidence in the case, and inflict or refuse to inflict the prescribed penalty, as, under oath, he deems the law and the evidence to demand.

If any person feel himself aggrieved by the decision of the judge in the police court he has the right to appeal to the higher courts of the state where the whole question may be passed upon again.

It is with these courts to say in what cases and to what extent the prescribed penalty shall be inflicted. It is with them and not with the police officers to say what are and what are not "works of necessity and charity."

We submit that for a policeman, his Chief or the Mayor or the Board of Police Commissioners to arrogate this authority to themselves before the question is passed upon by the courts is aiming a blow at the foundation of all principles of democratic government.

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## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure.



# Afraid of the Idea.

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It is reported that a noted crooked politician whom The Idea has been lambasting was asked on the street recently why he did not also sue when the others sued Yoder recently, and he replied that he had too much sense; that Yoder was going to prove every thing he said about the others and if he sued him he might prove it on him too.

The crooks don't doubt the truth of The Idea's statements, it's the good people who have been fooled by the daily papers into believing that Richmond politicians were about to sprout wings.

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## "Tommy-Rot."

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I have not gone deliberately to search out every establishment that sells its wares in Richmond on Sunday, but I have had occasion to keep my eyes open in passing up and down and venture that a conservative estimate of the number of habitual and open violators of the Sunday laws in this city is one hundred.

To say that the Mayor, the members of the Board of Police Commissioners, the Chief of Police, and every patrolman on the force does not know of this state of affairs is simply so much "tommy-rot." A ludicrous piece of child's play was enacted a few weeks ago when the order was sent out for the stores to close up on a certain Sunday. Some closed and some did not, some merchants were arrested and fined and some were not. The next Sunday the whole business was going full swing and the policemen stated that they had no further orders in regard to the matter. This is execution of the law with a vengeance!—LAW.

ALFRED L. WALTON, JR.

FRANK L. HUTCHESON

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# PRIZES FOR BOYS

"THE IDEA" WILL GIVE PRIZES TO  
Newsboys who get the greatest number of copies of *The Idea* and  
other prizes to those who sell the most copies.

The Contest will begin with the 1st of December and will continue until  
paid awards begin today to boys who sell the most copies.

Boys should have their names at the time of getting *The Idea* and they  
will keep an accurate record of their sales.

Boys who get *The Idea* will get a prize of \$1.00 and will receive valuable  
prizes and the winning boys will receive \$1.00 and will receive  
100 copies of *The Idea* in one week. (Prizes given  
every 10 days for the boys participating prize.)

WEEKLY **5c** THE COPY

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES



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Vol. IV

February 5, 1910

No. 6

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**Clyde Saunders**  
**and**  
**== Others. ==**  


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FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

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BEING SOME SERMONETTES PUBLISHED WEEKLY FOR THE  
COMMON GOOD AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA. By ADON A.  
YODER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, 904 CAPITOL ST., RICH-  
MOND, VA. PRINTED AT WONDERWHERE, VA.



## Prizes for Boys--February-March Contest

Ten prizes will be given to the ten boys selling the greatest number of IDEAS in December and January. Prizes were recently given out for the November contest. A handsome watch was the first prize, and first quality stag handle pocket knives were given to the nine boys selling the nine next largest numbers. One boy sold 226 copies in the month, thus making, at 2 cents each, \$4.52, besides the watch.

Selling IDEAS pays the boys well even if they do not secure the first prize.

JEWELER

J. S. JAMES

OPTICIAN

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Regal Hair Tonic.

For troublesome Coughs use Phlorizine.

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and Iodide Sarsaparilla.

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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

FEBRUARY 5, 1910

NO. 6

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,  
904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, at Richmond, Virginia.

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## Richmond's Debt to The Idea.

An Appeal on the Merits of  
This Paper's Good Work.

---

By Rev. Tilden Scherer.

The good people of Richmond are in the debt of THE IDEA more than they can ever pay.

Since this publication commenced its work a few months ago the attention of the people has been turned towards law enforcement and law and order as not before in years.

The writer can testify to the good that has been done.

Sunday closing has been agitated and now begins to look like a fact.

Gambling has been driven more under cover and it is reliably reported that some of the joints have closed up shop entirely because of their threatened exposure by this paper.

The immoral house question has been brought prominently before the public and the people are talking about it. The writer has knowledge of the fact that the position this publication has taken on this question is becoming the position of some of the best people in the city. The officials are having their attention directed to this matter in a very positive way and there promises to be vast improvement in the moral atmosphere in which our boys and girls must be brought up.

It is the writer's further conviction that THE IDEA'S agitation of matters involving the city's finances has already saved much money to the tax-payers and will result in saving much more in the future.

Many most excellent people have objected to Mr. Yoder's way of going about things; have said that he is too harsh, too indiscriminate in his attacks, etc. For the sake of argument at least these criticisms may be admitted, but in the writer's humble judgment most people make some mistakes. In the writer's further judgment harsh terms have been necessary to accomplish the end in view. Conditions which seem to me intolerable in a law abiding community have grown up under the noses of us who have been inclined to obey the law ourselves and let the other fellow do as he pleases.

We ministers have been trying to preach as pure a gospel in the Richmond pulpits as might be heard anywhere, and we trust we have lived in some measure the gospel we have preached. Now and then we may have entered a mild, gentlemanly, courteous, half-apologetic protest against conditions but we haven't been taken really seriously. The evils have gone on and even increased.

The thieving boy in our apple tree has laughed at us when we have cast the soft turf at him. Our friend has discovered our failure and has been shying a few stones at the rogue and with much more appreciable effect.

Whatever apologies others may feel like making for Mr. Yoder and his work, the writer has none to make. These matters have been carefully considered and it is my studied conviction that this publication is working in the interest of RIGHT as opposed to WRONG, in the interest of GOOD as opposed to EVIL; that no innocent party has suffered unjustly; that many innocent people have been protected from imposition and injury; that

**MUCH DEFINITE AND PRACTICAL GOOD HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED**

and that, these things being true, the people of Richmond owe it to A. A. Yoder that he be given a fair opportunity to continue his work.

Practically every body knows that repeated efforts have been made by men who, to put it mildly, do not bear savory reputations in the community, to put this publication out of business both by personal assaults upon the editor and by legal expenses in the courts when, as I believe the event will prove, no fair court will uphold their contentions.

Certain respectable, law abiding citizens met and appointed me to receive funds to pay the expenses of these court proceedings so that Mr. Yoder might not be hampered in his work. The response was generous and cordial but

**THE SUM RECEIVED THUS FAR IS NOT SUFFICIENT.**

This money is held for the expenses of defense alone. It is not needed and is not wanted by Mr. Yoder to pay the running expenses of his publication. The generous patronage of the people has been sufficient thus far for that. But if the ordinary income of the paper must be called upon to meet these legal expenses the continuation of the paper will be problematical.

**I CLAIM THAT THIS IS THE FIGHT OF THE LAW ABIDING PEOPLE OF HIGH MORAL IDEALS AGAINST LAXITY IN LAW ENFORCEMENT, AGAINST IMMOR-**

(Continued on page 14.)



## Retired Manufacturer Writes.

---

Editor of The Idea :

Surely there is need of some such paper as yours in Richmond.

Our daily papers seem to have but one mission, that is the defence of the liquor traffic, all other matters are but incidental, such as good roads and the annexation of Manchester and the number of saloons and jug houses which Manchester will be allowed.

I wonder if these papers do not really get their animus for their pro liquor zeal in the liquor patronage they receive, and do they not flatter themselves that from the use of the space they sell to the liquor men going into dry territory the great jug trade is made possible, and this manhood distroying traffic is fastened on many who would otherwise be comparatively safe from its balefull influence. Surely the love of money which induces the papers to publish and men to engage in the debauching and ruinous traffic is surprising in this age of the protection of home and the many screens devised to protect young manhood and womanhood, that the most potent enemy of our race can find friendship and advocacy from our daily papers which the people must read or fail to keep up with current events.

It is a comfort I am sure to the great mass of the good people of our city and state that soon there will be a clean paper published in Richmond, one without seductive liquor advertisements, and prize fighting news and stuff of this brutalizing character to the exclusion of nearly everything going on in the moral world for the uplift of mankind, and making of this sinful world better.

Our present cities publications proceed on the theory that nothing but what caters to the lowest instincts of mankind

is readable or interesting. Only for fear of outraging the moral sentiment of the community, the work of very conspicuous conventions and citizens meetings are given place, and then to often destroy the good purposes of the work they aim to accomplish. So far as known our news papers have never raised a cry against sensual shows and vile insinuations put before the eyes of our women and children in the moving picture shows, and on the stage. But when the vile stuff was too flagrant to pass, it was not the reporters of the press to move its suppression, when it is known that the owners of these papers and employers in many instances are professed Christians it surprises us to know where they get their low standards of morals. Certainly not from the Christian's Bible. It is not surprising that with the support of the press generally that the terrible liquor traffic for centuries boldly defied legislation and all the moral agencies employed to curb its power. Not until the Anti-saloon League with the power of God behind it did this iniquitous monster cringe and beg for quarters, promising obedience to law and decent conduct. But it is too late; the slogan has gone forth "the saloon must go."

Few know the alarming extent of damage this traffic does.

We are debauching even the heathen lands and the uplifting, christianizing work of our Godly missionaries is largely undone and thousands of others would be reached except for the counteracting influence of the soul and body destroying decoctions, which so-called christian nations send, and all for blood money derived therefrom, a sad splash on our boasted civilization, certainly no argument is necessary to convince any man who loves his fellow man to enter a relentless warfare against such a traffic, a traffic which blights every home, and is a menace to the entire world.

Certainly it is surprising that any intelligent man should defend it, or any good man engage in the traffic.

The writer knows from long and sad experience the truth of the matter referred to.

Yours for mankind.

# Cap't Taylor Rampant.

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## Justice John Fines the People for the Crime of the President of the Fire Board.

---

Thursday's (last week) papers tell us that Chas. F. Taylor was arrested for exceeding the speed limit and evidence given showed that the auto was going so fast along the main street of Richmond that the bicycle policeman could not keep up with it and Dr. Reade, councilman, testified that he never saw a car going as fast before in his life.

It was a clear case of reckless and dangerous driving and gross violation of the law with absolutely no excuse for it, but since Captain Taylor was an office holder of the city, Justice John saw a way of appearing to fine the offender while actually doing nothing of the kind. by fining Captain Taylor, "as President of the Board of Fire Commissioners" \$50.00.

Now what does that mean? Well it simply means according to the Journal that the people pay the bill: that is, you and I are fined for what Captain Taylor did.

Justice John had no right in the first place to fine a man as an official. When a crime is committed it is committed not by a board but by an individual, a crime from its nature can not be an official act it must be a private act, and Justice John knows that the people should not pay for the sins of an individual even if that individual were at the time doing an official necessity

Even if Captain Taylor had been going to a fire he would have

been subject to the speed limit law, for as far as fires are concerned he is no more than any other citizen.

He is not a member of the fire department and the fire Chief alone has legal authority on such occasion.

The trouble is that the fire board and the police board seem to think they own this town and are therefore not only above the law themselves but have authority to set aside the law for others.

The Journal says:—

It was learned this afternoon that the fine would be paid out of the fund of the Board of Fire Commissioners, which means that the city not only imposes the fine, but will have to pay it, a swapping of dollars between the funds of the Fire Department to the Police Court receipts.

It is also reported that Mr. Taylor defied the ordinance and "informed the court that the speed limit would not be respected in the future."

Altho Mr. Taylor attempted to excuse himself the next day he did not deny but reaffirmed according to the Journal that report by saying that "I meant to imply that when I thought the occasion demanded it and when the emergency presented itself I or my associates would disregard the speed ordinance."

We submit that if all Richmond were on fire Captain Taylor would have no more right than any other private citizen to exceed the speed limit or violate any other law.

His business is not to put out fires. Its to look after the business management of the department.

Here in Richmond however a condition of affairs exists which does not exist in other cities of the State.

The Fire Board usurps the functions of the Chief and the Fire Department and oversteps the legal limits prescribed for it and undertakes to take to itself all the privileges and duties of firemen;

Likewise the Police Board usurps the powers of the Police Department and undertakes to instruct the police contrary to their oaths thus even usurping also the functions of the legislature by openly defying the laws and prohibiting subordinates from doing their duty.

When will the citizens awake and demand of their servants that they become law abiding citizens instead of law breakers and tyrants and destroyers of the law?



## How Much Did You Get?

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### Clyde Saunders, Chris Manning

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For some time past the Swift Company Meat Packers have been attempting to get permission to construct a large platform from their establishment out across the side-walk space so that they might use this space to load cars on without the use of skids, etc.

The bill after being duly urged by Chris Manning and other lobbyists who were often on hand at the committee meetings, was finally passed by the two bodies of the council but was vetoed by the Mayor, who held that the council had no right to grant such a privilege.

After the Mayor's veto however the proposed plan came again before the council. On the night the Mayor's veto came up before the aldermen for consideration Clyde Saunders and Chris Manning who were together in the Telephone Company graft (each on oath admitting having received \$7,000 in that deal) were much in evidence, shaking hands with the members, cornering some, argueing with others, taking others into tee cloak room and making themselves so prominent on the floor during the sessions of the body that President Wood had to rap for order and make the remark "too much electioneering, Gentlemen."

The question finally came up and the vote was taken with enough votes to pass it over the Mayor's veto and immediately Messrs. Saunders and Manning with beaming faces left the hall.

Now The Idea would enquire, How much did you get Messrs. Saunders and Manning for your "perfectly legitimate" work on that occasion? Surely if your influence with the council is worth a thousand apiece to the Telephone Company you will not give it away to others without. "A jittle slice," as Manning formerly put it, from somebody.

# Put 'Em Out. Fair Play!

---

Is it fair for the police to close Messrs. Roccicholi and Biancini on 7th and main and let other merchants open on Sunday?

Last Sunday these two were closed while stores all over town were open.

The papers say that others were "reported" by the police. Why were they not stopped by the police? If you or I violate any law we are not simply "reported" we are arrested and stopped.

The officers are sworn to enforce the law, not to report the violator and let him keep on violating.

These pretences towards doing sworn duty by the police department are utterly absurd. They do not want to enforce the law and Justice John does not want to enforce the law for he has not yet (January 31st) made a single one of these places forfeit any bond.

The police could stop every place in town in two weeks if they wanted to and the law makes it their bounden duty so to do but they are "a law unto themselves" and legislative enactments amount to nothing with the Mayer and Police Department of Richmond.

The papers here encourage this open law breaking by making light of what they call these blue-laws, when they know very well that this Sunday closing law is in no sense a blue-law.

It was passed by the legislature just session before last in response to urgent demand on the part of the people.

Its a live law and there is absolutely no excuse for its being openly violated.

The Police Board when their policy is to practically instruct the force to ignore this law is guilty of a crime not simply against the people of Richmond but against the State of Virginia and if the Mayor thinks he is simply a figure head and can not get the police to enforce this law because he can not even dismiss them without the approval of the board, he has far more effective remedy; he can remove the police board and put it up to the council to get another one. Is he man enough to do it? No. Hardly. You see the ring that elects the council also elected him and his hands are absolutely tied.

The people will never get any progress made except through their individual efforts or from public indignation until they put the gang out, the Mayor and the Council included.

Meantime let the people uphold the Rev. Mr. Atkins and Mr. Ledman the Merchant in their attempt to have the law enforced.

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## The Criminal Libel Case

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The appeal from the Police Court in the Manning, Gordon and Crutchfield warrant proceedings will come up before Judge Harrison of Winchester in the Hustings Court on next Friday February 11th at 11 o'clock

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## Gov. Mann on Law Enforcement.

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"It should be the concern of all connected with the legislative, judicial and executive branches of the government, to see to it that the laws are promptly and justly enforced.

How is that, Mayor Richardson?

# ANNOUNCEMENT

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The rapidly increasing demand made on my time by my strictly legal work (writing for law books, and office practice), and by my other concerns, has prevented me from giving my personal attention to the real estate department that I contemplated establishing in connection with my law offices, and I am therefore compelled, in justice to my clients and patrons, to give up this branch of my work.

This change takes effect February first, after which time all persons having property still in my hands will be personally notified of its status.

The secret of my success in my office practice has been prompt, efficient and conscientious service, and a notable capacity for SETTLING CASES OUT OF COURT.

---

SPECIAL ATTENTION GIVEN TO COL-  
LECTIONS. OUT OF TOWN BUSI-  
NESS HANDLED THROUGH BOND-  
ED ATTORNEYS LOCATED  
EVERYWHERE.

- SAMUEL WANT -

Attorney and Counsellor at Law

819 E. Broad St.

'Phone Monroe 2837.

PUBLIC STENOGRAPHER AND NOTARY  
IN OFFICE.

---

WANTED:--A substantial ground for the time-worn  
objection to advertising by lawyers.



## “Official Discourtesy.”

---

### Police Discovers a New Name for Neglect of Duty.

---

Sunday before last The Rev. H. P. Atkins noticed that the two stores recently fined for being open on Sunday were as wide open as ever and so he made complaint to a policeman on the corner and that policeman, officer Newman, refused to make the arrest, on the grounds as he stated that the store was not in his beat, his beat was on one side the street and the store was on the other, and he stated that it would be discourteous to the officer in charge of the other beat for him to cross the street and make an arrest, tho he had taken an oath to see that all laws are enforced and to even make arrest beforehand wherever such arrest would prevent the violation of law. And the same law has clothed him with jurisdiction not only across the street but all over town and one mile into the country and at all times of the day or night whether he is even on duty or not, and such duty is exercised all over town whenever a policeman sees fit to exercise it.

The truth is the subordinate officer was in an embarrassing position for his oath said one thing and his orders demanded another.

The Richmond Police are Practically Instructed to Violate Their Oath of Office and They Know too Well That if They Dared Attempt to Enforce the Law Their Jobs Would not be Worth 30c. with the Present Law Breaking Police Board.

# To The Legislature.

---

Perhaps the most important piece of legislation demanded at this session of the General Assembly is the change in the constitution permitting Virginia cities to do away with the ward system of government and to adopt the commission instead of the old councilmanic form. Since the cities of the state in convention assembled have taken such concerted action and have appointed a committee to see to the passage of a proper bill it is already almost assured that the proper laws will be made. The Idea was perhaps the first Virginia paper to take any decided stand in favor of Commission Government, and has pressed this matter before the people, first in Lynchburg nearly four years ago and for the past eight months in Richmond continually and persistently, and we do not doubt that it is for this reason at least in part that Lynchburg is now taking the initiative in pushing this matter before the legislature.

Lynchburg has not been infested as Richmond and Norfolk have by well organized grafters and yet it has suffered much from the cumbersomeness and extravagance and delay occasioned by the worn out councilmanic form of government.

The proposed change provides for election at large instead of by wards, and where this plan has been tried it has been found of untold benefit in that it insures the election of good men and secondly, it renders such men amenable to the will of the people because they are directly responsible to the whole body of the people for their position.

By having a small body of paid councilmen instead of a large body of unpaid councilmen the city can, and does easily command experts and men well informed to do its work, and because they are paid and are experts the city saves untold amounts which formerly were wasted or stolen.

Just recently in one of our large cities a plumbing contractor offered a merchant a slightly used boiler, originally worth \$500.00 for \$200.00. A little later the merchant decided he would like to have the boiler and called up the plumber and found that the boiler had been sold to the City School Board for \$350.00. On telling a member of the board of the occurrence he replied that the board was under the impression that they were saving \$150.00 on the boiler whereas they found they were being charged \$150.00 more than the price to outsiders.

By all means let the legislature change the constitution so as to permit government by a small body, elected by all the people.

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## Richmond's Debt to The Idea.

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(Continued from page 3.)

ALITY, AGAINST CRIME. It ought to be a fight of the parents and older brothers and sisters.

•FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE INNOCENT BOYHOOD AND GIRLHOOD OF OUR COMMUNITY.

In this contention I am RIGHT or WRONG. Those who believe with me are asked to send further contributions to the undersigned for this cause. The fight against present conditions is just begun. There will be no let up until the victory is won. Will you have a hand in that victory?

Address all communications to

TILDEN SCHERER,

Ginter Park, Richmond, Va.

---

## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure.

# The New Daily.

---

From the vituperation that the Journal is emitting over the advent of The Virginian we judge that the Journal's existence is already seriously threatened.

The way Richmonders have subscribed to the new evening paper ought to show the old papers here what The Idea has been claiming that there is a genuine demand for a clean and fair daily paper here.

It must be exceedingly gratifying to the management of the new paper to be so heartily received by the public.

If the other afternoon papers had been at all decent and fair, Richmond people would not be breaking their necks in their haste to subscribe to another one.

Advertisers too seem to be sick of the old papers' policies for The Virginian could not nearly accommodate all the requests for space in their first number of sixteen pages.

If the people did not already know that The Virginian was to be a clean paper they would strongly suspect it because of the enemies it made even before it made its initial appearance.

When the wishy-washy Journal attacks anything people begin to suspect that the thing attacked has some mighty good qualities else why should the Journal attack it.

For our part The Idea rejoices over the new arrival altho The Virginian will doubtless occupy a part of the field that this paper has attempted to fill, for our first consideration is not the success of this paper (for we can make a howling financial success out of it by selling out to the crooks) but it is "the common good" at which we aim, and we have every reason to believe that the new paper is the result of similar desire.

All honor to the backers of the new enterprise and all welcome to The Virginian, Richmond's only clean or fair daily paper.



# State-Wide.

---

The whiskeyites and their powerful allies and sympathizers, the so-called conservative business men, tell us that although nine-tenths of the state is dry they should not be allowed to put the whiskey business out of the state, simply because the law won't be enforced in spots.

Let us gently remind them that the laws are not enforced in Richmond today and yet they would not dare to suggest to repeal these laws simply because the executive authority here refused to abide by his oath and carry out these laws. Laws passed just a few years ago are already dead letters as far as Richmond's Mayor is concerned, and yet the legislature has before it today bills making these same laws more stringent.—Speaker Byrd's White Slave Law for instance.—

Who would say don't let's make that law simply because Richmond has a Mayor that will not enforce it.

What is needed in Virginia is more law and better law but greatest of all executives who will enforce the law.

Let us have a dry and decent and respectable state even if here and there a Mayor can be found who refuses to abide by his oath.

One of the greatest arguments for putting the state dry is right here in the fact that the whiskey business has so gotten hold of the machinery of elections and of governments that laws effecting them can not be enforced until their nefarious traffic has been destroyed by more laws.

Put whiskey out and then the laws already enacted will be enforced, for it is only by the corrupting influence of the saloons in politics that evil men ever get a chance to occupy the offices of government.

Let us have state-wide prohibition if for no other reason simply because it will make politics decent, and then put out of commission that muck-raking little sheet The Idea.—  
Selah!

ALFRED L. WALTON, Jr.

FRANK L. HUTCHESON

## *Jefferson Chemical Cleaning and Dyeing Works*

No Cleaner Can Clean  
A Cleaner Suit Cleaner  
Than A Clean Cleaner  
— Can Clean —

*We Dye Seventy-One Colors  
All Work Done As It Ought To Be*

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Phone Mad. 6030

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**CEMENT PAVING  
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32 NORTH LOMBARDY STREET

PHONE 1821

RICHMOND, VA.

Estimates cheerfully given on Sidewalk  
Paving, Halls, Vestibules, Basements, &c.

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The Editor has known Mr. Ewing personally for the last twenty years,  
and he takes pleasure in stating that his reputation for first-class work  
and straight forward, satisfactory dealing is unexcelled.

*For Reliable*

FURNITURE, FLOOR  
COVERINGS, STOVES  
AND HEATERS :: ::

=====CALL ON=====

JONES BROS. & CO. Inc.

Cash or Credit

1418-1420 E. Main St.

P R I Z E S

FOR  
BOYS

**"THE IDEA" WILL GIVE PRIZES TO**  
Newsboys who get the greatest number of weekly subscribers and  
other prizes to those who sell the most copies.

**The Contest** will begin with the 1st of December and boys desiring to com-  
pete should begin today to work for their weekly subscriptions.

**Boys** should leave their names at the time of getting their papers so that  
we may keep an accurate record of their sales.

**Some time ago** THE IDEA gave away a Watch and nine other valuable  
prizes, and the winning boys did good work. One boy selling  
112 copies of THE IDEA of one issue. There is good  
money in it for the boys besides the prizes.

WEEKLY **5c** THE COPY

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

February 12, 1910

No. 7

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## The Saunders Suit and other Interesting Matters

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FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

BEING SOME SERMONETTES PUBLISHED WEEKLY FOR THE  
COMMON GOOD AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, By ADON A.  
YODER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, 904 CAPITOL ST., RICH-  
MOND, VA. PRINTED AT WONDERWHERE, VA.



## Prizes for Boys--February-March Contest

Ten prizes will be given to the ten boys selling the greatest number of IDEAS in December and January. Prizes were recently given out for the November contest. A handsome watch was the first prize, and first quality stag handle pocket knives were given to the nine boys selling the nine next largest numbers. One boy sold 226 copies in the month, thus making, at 2 cents each, \$4.52, besides the watch.

Selling IDEAS pays the boys well even if they do not secure the first prize.

JEWELER

J. S. JAMES

OPTICIAN

7th AND MAIN STS.

We have in our Fall Stock and are  
showing special good values in

DIAMONDS, WATCHES, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, CUT GLASS, Etc.

We invite your inspection

For Chapped hands and Lips and Rough Skin use Soothing Balm.

For dry or falling Hair, Dandruff and diseased Scalp, use  
Regal Hair Tonic.

For troublesome Coughs use Phlorizine.

For Dyspepsia and Indigestion, use Copodone Liver Pills.

For Pimples and Skin Eruptions, use Aromatic Tonic Bitters  
and Iodide Sarsaparilla.

---

For the Best Medicines Extant, Go to

- A. H. ROBINS, -

200 E. MARSHALL ST.

More than 50 Years Experience.

# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

FEBRUARY 12, 1910

NO. 7

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,  
904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, at Richmond, Virginia.

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## News Paper-Lies.

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The Journal Fights for the Whiskey People by Deceiving the Public.

---

On the third page will be found an exact copy of an article on the first two columns of The Evening Journal of January 21st.

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In our opinion this is about as clear a case on its face of deliberate attempt to deceive the public as can easily be found. It looks like the whiskey interests can start any kind of a lie they want to and the whiskey soaked papers immediately take it up and use it to hurt the cause of those who oppose the evil.

Here are five absolutely false statements made by The Journal based on what that paper knew was an absolutely false report and they knew the report itself was absolutely false for under the same headlines they printed the denial of the report by the one man in Virginia recognized as authority on such subjects. J. D. McAllister, Secretary of The Anti-Saloon League of Virginia who said, "No Truth in Report" "A Canard, pure and simple."

The first false statement is:—

"Give Five Millions to fight Demon Rum." This was not true.

The second false statement is:—

"Rockefellers Money will be spent in Virginia." This statement was not only false in fact but would also be false even if THE REPORT HAD BEEN TRUE, for the report only said that PART of the money was "to be used in starting newspapers IN VARIOUS STATES, AMONG THEM BEING Virginia, Florida and Washington."

Read the five statements themselves and then form your own opinion as to The Journal's veracity.

The fifth statement is false because the report did not say this fund will be expended in Virginia, Florida and Washington, it said in various states AMONG THEM Virginia, etc. That report might be true if Virginia, Florida and Washington got one cent each, while The Journal said they'd get all of five million dollars.

No Wonder a prominent Richmond Preacher, Rev. Asbury Christian got up on the floor of the Anti-Saloon League Convention last month and in discussing the false reports of The Evening Journal concerning that convention, characterized that paper or the reporter as "utterly incapable of telling the truth."

We are persuaded that the only reason that Virginia has permitted this most stupendous evil of the ages to fasten itself on her so long is the fact that the papers have thrown their all powerful influence in molding public opinion on the side of so base an evil as to depend for its very existence on a campaign of lies.

We wonder if The Journal can state "ONLY Headline Wrong."

FALSE (1.)

# GIVE FIVE MILLIONS TO FIGHT DEMON RUM

FALSE (2.)

## ROCKEFELLER'S MONEY WILL BE SPENT IN VA.

FALSE (3.)

Prohibition Papers to Be  
Started to Help  
Cause

FALSE (2.)

## SECRET LEAKED OUT

FALSE (5.)

This Big Fund Will Be Expended  
in Virginia, Florida and Wash-  
ington, Is the Report—Young  
Rockefeller Will Not  
Talk on Subject.

REPORT

(By Journal's Leased Wire.)

NORFOLK, VA., Jan. 21.—John D. Rockefeller, according to reliable reports, has secretly given \$5,000,000 to help fight the saloon. Part of the money is to be used in establishing newspapers in various States, among them being Virginia, Florida and Washington.

John D., Jr., Refuses to Talk.

(By Journal's Leased Wire.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 21.—John D. Rockefeller, Jr., refused to deny or affirm the report from Norfolk, Va., that his father had given \$5,000,000 to aid prohibition newspapers.

"No Truth in Report."—McAllister.

"A canard, pure and simple."

When the substance of the above wire was imparted to the Rev. J. D. McAllister, field secretary of the Virginia Anti-Saloon League, this morning, he gave expression to the characterization noted above.

Mr. McAllister was seen at his office at the headquarters of the Anti-Saloon League, on East Franklin Street.

"As far as we are concerned," he continued, "there is absolutely nothing in the report. The report hobs nays ever and anon, but is invariably discredited." It was last given prominence in the State of Illinois, but was subsequently refuted.

When The Journal man pointed to that part of the dispatch which has reference to the establishing of newspapers throughout the South to further the cause of temperance, Mr. McAllister replied: "It's all poppycock."

"The report has been manutecured out of the whole cloth, and, as far as the Virginia Anti-Saloon League is concerned, there is absolutely not the slightest vestige of truth to it," was his parting shot.

THE DENIAL.

(From THE JOURNAL Richmond.)



## “People Have the Right to Decide” Says Gov. Mann.

---

The Journal of Tuesday the first, in big headlines announcing the Governor's inaugural address begins:—“GOVERNOR MANN STANDS BY LOCAL OPTION.”

We read that long message over and could not find the faintest allusion to Local Option or the slightest shadow of a reason for that false statement at the head of that article.

Governor Mann did however say this:—

“I simply reiterate my steadfast opposition to the saloon, and my confidence in the people of Virginia, who have the right to settle this question as to them shall seem best.”

To our mind that means that the people have the right to vote on this question and everybody knows that Governor Mann will vote “dry” and that local option is the whiskey people's platform, while “The Saloon Must Go” is the slogan of all who believe in fighting this mammoth evil.

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## Justice John Tires of It.

---

On Tuesday before last Justice John Crutchfield, on fining several violators of the Sunday laws made the remark that he was going to break up this business as he was tired of so much talk about lack of law enforcement in Richmond.

It is rather late in the day for him to be waking up.

What do you think of a court that will wait for the public to get as “mad as a hatter” before he will attempt to have the law respected.

## Undertakers in the Council.

---

Did you ever stop to wonder why there are so many undertakers in our city council? Is it because it is possible for them to fix the prices at which one will have to pay for hacks at a funeral. Plans are now on to raise the rate.

Its gotten rotten when the trusts make it come high to live and the undertakers make it come higher to die.

---

The Council is contemplating giving some \$30,000 to improve Bryan Park way out north in the country somewhere by building roads and walks and other frills for the delectation of the idle rich while poor tax-payers all over town can't get either sidewalks or street paving in front of their doors, tho they have paid hard earned taxes for many many years.

---

February 5, 1910

Mr. A. A. Yoder,  
Richmond, Va.

Dear Sir:—

I notice this morning from The Virginian that you will enter suit against The Times-Dispatch, and I am very glad indeed to hear it.

I happened to hear your examination regarding the erasing the name of Manning, and the Judge promptly ruled the question out I remember very distinctly, and I trust you will be able to show them up in the proper light if there is any way to do it, and also sincerely trust that you will be able to make them pay damages.

I herewith enclose you check for \$25.00 which I subscribed sometime ago to your defense fund, and it gives me great pleasure to do so.

With best wishes, I am.

Yours truly,

R. S. BARBOUR.

See next weeks IDEA for a complete reputation of the contemptible insinuations against the editor of The Idea. We can promise it will be worth reading. It is to late to get in this issue.

---

## Several Lies.

---

### The Times-Dispatch Defames The Idea.

---

The Times-Dispatch of February 4, 1910 in reporting the proceedings in the civil libel case went out of their way to make in large bold headlines on the front page of that paper three insulting and absolutely false statements about the editor.

There were eight large headlines of these falsehoods and yet when we called their attention to it by announcing our purpose to sue them that paper came out the next day and stated "only headline wrong" which is another false statement for there were eight headlines wrong besides all through the body of the article were malicious falsehoods against the editor.

The very first statement in the body of the article is false, namely, that the editor admitted that his charges were based on hearsay and that he had no evidence to support them.

Thats a lie. We stated that all our charges, or opinions, were based on grand jury reports etc, etc, and not hearsay and our evidence which completely proved them was actually introduced in court and went to the jury.

Every statement in the alleged libel was proven to be absolutely true.

To show their malice toward this paper The Times-Dispatch the next morning went a step further and stated that the question asked the day before to which that paper said I had answered yes, was asked again and objected to by counsel before the editor replied, when they knew that before it was objected to the editor answered "No, emphatically No." Then that paper continued its libelous attack by continually inserting in its supposed account gross falsehoods.

This has led us to determine to sue The Times-Dispatch.

Our letters elsewhere in this number will show our purpose in that matter.

---

Count that day last whose low-descending sun

Views from thy hand no worthy action done.—Selected.

---

# Saunders'

# Reputation.

---

Who said Saunders had a good reputation?

Five or six politicians who seemed to be afraid they'd loose their jobs if they did not.

It was amusing to see them squirm when Mr. Merideth asked them the pointed question "Do you mean to tell the jury that Mr. Saunders' general reputation in the community is not that of an evil influence?"

They gave such answers as this,— "Well Mr. Meredith I don't know all the people in Richmond," "He has the reputation of being smooth" etc.



# Some Plain Talk.

---

## The Editors Private Affairs.

---

Since the name of Mr. J. M. Atkinson has been dragged into the libel suit brought by Clyde W. Saunders, and since the news papers, by their imperfect and, in the case of the Times-Dispatch, absolutely false and misleading articles, have damaged this paper and its editor I feel it a duty I owe to the public and myself and all concerned to make the following statement of facts, altho the matter is purely a private and personal one.

The editor of The Idea met Mr. J. M. Atkinson in Lynchburg last Spring for the first time. Mr. Atkinson suggested that since Richmond was a larger place and was much more corrupt than Lynchburg politically The Idea could be a self sustaining paper there and accomplish more good.

I told him that I had been considering going to Richmond for that purpose expecting to keep up the Lynchburg fight also from Richmond but was unable at that time to make the change.

He stated that he would lend me the money to make the change in location if I would go to Richmond and fight along the same lines that I was fighting in Lynchburg.

I said that I would not do so because I realized that my ideas were radical and I had refused several offers to edit news papers in other places simply because I did not want to feel that any one had the remotest personal interest in my paper for fear it would handicap me in my work. I told him that I would rather edit a little 2 x 4 paper all my own than

edit the biggest paper in the country if anyone else had anything to do with deciding the policy of the paper.

He stated that he would agree that if I should accept his loan it would be with the emphatic understanding that he should have absolutely nothing to do with the policy of the paper and that to keep me from feeling handicapped by the loan I should not even promise to pay at any certain date, but only as soon as the success of the paper would permit it.

After considering the situation and talking to former Richmonders in Lynchburg I decided to come to Richmond and as soon as convenient I did so.

In justice to Mr. Atkinson and myself let me say that he has lived up to his agreement and I have lived up to mine altho his ideas and mine are at radical variance on many questions.

Now as to the malicious imputations conveyed in the questions, asked by the council for Mr. Saunders in the suit, concerning the erasing of Mr. Manning's name from The Idea of August 14.

---

## The Facts Are These.

On Friday August 13th, the same being the day on which the papers were to be sold in the afternoon, Mr. J. M. Atkinson came by the office in the morning and asked to see a copy. This I let him do.

He read it over, made some comments, and then coming to the name of Mr. "Manning," "Marked for Slaughter" he asked what I had against Manning to have him marked for slaughter. I told him that Mr. Manning was caught in the gambling house at the time many were arrested shortly before at the races at the fair grounds and that I had heard that Mr. Manning had furnished plumbing to the city while he was police commissioner. He stated he heard that it was not Mr. Manning but instead another one of the police commissioners who was caught at the gambling den when the raid was made.

On hearing this I said that I would hate to jump on erroneous information and that I had better cut that out and if I found that he deserved it I certainly would go for him later.

So I put all my force to work erasing Mr. Manning's name and even got two guests in the hotel (I was stopping at the Park Hotel then,) to help in the work.

As to the base insinuation that I did this on the promise that Mr. Manning would withdraw any objections he might have to the Park Hotel Licence I denounce it as an infamous slander for I did not know that Mr. Manning had anything to do with granting bar licences and I will state further that I will look into this matter and see how Mr. Manning can have anything to do with granting such licences and if he used his political power to influence the findings of Judge Witt who alone is supposed to grant whiskey licences, then indeed there is something rotten in politics in Richmond and I for one am going to learn something about it.

They are indeed letting the cat out of the bag by admitting in their excessive ardor that such men as Manning have any weight with Judge Witt.

Suffice it to say for the present that I did not know that Manning had any such power and that the erasing of Manning's name was because I believed I was about to scorn the man on false information. Let me state further that I soon found other grounds for marking Manning for slaughter and also found that certain officials were indeed caught by the officers of the law in the gambling den when it was pulled and that they got off while the scape goats who were arrested paid the fines in the County Court, and the papers made no mention of the names of the men higher up, who were most guilty and who, it is rumored, paid the fines of the fellows placed under arrest.

This with other equally bad information about certain men higher up is my reason for exposing them just as soon as the facts were established.

Furthermore: altho I learned from others, (for Mr. Atkinson very wisely refrained from talking his affairs to me,) that Mr. J. M. Atkinson was not a member of the Liquor Dealers Association and was therefore opposed by the organized bar-keepers of the town and altho I learned that as soon as he was deprived of his bar licence that licence

was obtained for "Dutch Leaman to whom as political lieutenant The Idea has paid its respects, still I decided not to fight this dirty deal against Mr. Atkinson but kept away from it altho at times I feared I was not doing my duty in refusing to expose it simply because exposing it might hurt me by having base motives attributed to me. I publish these facts now simply to show that instead of The Idea's being used to fight Atkinson's battles it has not fought injustice to him as much as it has fought injustice to others.

---

# The Saunder's Suit.

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## The Jury Not to Blame.

---

After seven days of trial in the libel suit Judge Ingram on Tuesday read instructions to the jury which compelled them even if all though the verdict should be "not guilty" to render a verdict for the plaintiff Mr. Saunders. According to their oath they had to render a verdict according to the instructions even if they believed we had proven every statement made and the instructions were wrong. If one juror stood out for \$20,000 damages, the amount asked for, and all the other six stood for no damages the compromise verdict would have been \$20,000 divided by seven making \$2,859. It therefore appears that the jury was for the defendant but had to give the nominal damage because some one at least thought Saunders ought to have something.

The Supreme Court will decide this question as to instructions.



# From "The Virginian."

## Says He Will Sue.

---

Mr. Yoder sends the following communication to The Richmond Virginian:

Editor of The Richmond Virginian.

Sir:—Immediately on the conclusion of the present court proceedings, I will take steps towards entering suit against the publishers of the Times-Dispatch for one of the many false statements contained in that paper of this morning.

This is the clearest cut libel I have ever noticed. The statement referred to is "Yoder admits in Saunders' libel suit that Manning's name was stricken out on promise to aid Atkinson's petition."

The court records will show that this was one among many questions which the court refused to permit to be answered, on the ground that they had no bearing on this suit, although the editor was prepared and anxious to answer no, and thus deny all the malicious imputations.

1. The statement is untrue.
2. The slander is against a private citizen.
3. It is made with actual malice in fact.
4. It is a report of a trial.

ADON A. YODER.

---

## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure.

# Prizes for Boys.

---

If all the returns are in and counted The Idea will give away next Saturday the prizes to those carriers who have sold the most copies for December and January.

Last week began the Prize Contest for February and March.

The boy selling the largest number of Ideas in these two months will receive a handsome watch and the next nine boys will receive nine other useful and valuable prizes.

Get busy today for the contest.

And don't hang around on Broad and Main streets. The boys who sell the most are those who work up a line of customers in the offices and stores and, above all, in the homes of the people.

---

# Practical Religion.

---

We are glad to note the fact that the honored pastor of Allen Avenue Christian Church the Rev. H. P. Atkins has felt it his right and duty to look into the gross lack of enforcement of our Sunday Laws to the extent of calling a policeman's attention to their violation, and then when given a non sensical reply, following it up in the courts. This man Roccioli who was recently also reported by Mr. Ledman is an old offender. He was arrested for violating laws governing trade some two years ago but under Justice John he has found that it pays to ignore the law, for not only have the police been instructed not to see such violations but also Justice Crutchfield does not use the weapon of the law given him to break up such offences against the acts of the legislature.

# Fight in the Open.

---

Don't Throw Up Dust to Be-  
cloud the Issue.

---

To the Readers of THE IDEA:—

This letter is not written for the purpose of trying to win over any of the opponents of this publication. They have seemed to be looking for a chance to throw up their hands in holy horror and say "I told you so." It might be shown as clear as day therefore that there was absolutely nothing questionable in the relations between A. A. Yoder and J. M. Atkinson and they would be of the same opinion as formerly.

This letter is written to the friends of this cause as a simple statement of the facts in the case by a friend who is familiar with them with the perfect assurance that such statement is all that Mr. Yoder's friends desire.

When I first became acquainted with Mr. Yoder and commenced to take an active stand in sympathy with his work I had heard nothing of his relations with J. M. Atkinson. But he voluntarily told me the circumstances of those relations with perfect frankness. He asked my advice about making such frank statement to the public in THE IDEA, stating that he had absolutely nothing to conceal from the public, that he had always made it his habit and had found it best to take the public into his entire confidence. With other friends I advised him that such statement was not necessary, that it was simply a private business affair in which the pub-

He was not interested and did not expect him to reveal. Whether this was wise advice or not does not concern the question.

The whole work of this paper has been entirely open and above board and there is nothing in its policy to justify accusation of impure motives which the enemies of the publication have been so eager to bring.

Many people have been found ready to condemn A. A. Yoder and his publication. Many have been found willing to defend their friends who have been criticised, but

I HAVE YET TO FIND THE FIRST ONE WHO WILL  
COME OUT INTO THE OPEN AND ADVOCATE  
AS RIGHT THE PRINCIPLES AND CON-  
DITIONS WHICH THIS PAPER HAS  
BEEN FIGHTING.

On the part of the friends of this paper let me say that we shall persistently refuse to allow the throwing up of dust to becloud the main issue before the public eye. That issue is clearly drawn between

HONESTY and DISHONESTY

MORALITY and IMMORALITY

RIGHT and WRONG

LAW ENFORCEMENT and CONTEMPT FOR LAW.

The helplessness and innocency of the writer's own unconscious babe and the beauty and purity of the boyhood and girlhood of the whole community cry out to the fathers and mothers for the cleansing of the moral atmosphere which these little ones must breathe in the coming years. It is not a question with me as to whether this thing CAN be done, but

SHOULD IT BE DONE?

and where is the man who will come out like a man and say that it shouldn't be done?

TILDEN SCHERER.



## Unfair to Tax-Payers.

### High School Bounded by, Four Muddy Roads.

It is hoped that the Finance Committee will have enough consideration for the citizens who have been paying taxes for years to order some paving on Clay and Marshall streets in the neighborhood of The New High School.

This is one of the oldest residence sections of the city and yet it has been neglected for generations.

The council does not hesitate to improve the new West-end tho this property has paid almost no taxes into the treasury and yet here we have a fine New High School in the very heart of the city and only one block from Broad street and not two blocks from Capitol square bounded on all four sides by muddy roads which are not only a nuisance for the riding public but which besmirch the crossings and sidewalks so much that it is a distinct nuisance to pedestrians who use this section so much.

Children also going to this High School have had to wade in mud nearly every day this winter, all because we have a council which will waste money in the West-end and refuse to spend anything in the old section of the city.

We wonder what travelers to Richmond think when they are shown John Marshall's old Home flanked by muddy road ways tho situated as it is.

A Real Estate Man, H. R. Pollard Jr. is head of the Finance Committee.

ALFRED L. WALTON, Jr.

FRANK L. HUTCHESON

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"THE IDEA" WILL GIVE PRIZES TO  
Newsboy who get the greatest number of weekly subscribers and  
other prizes to those who sell the most copies.

The Contest will begin with the 1st of December and boys desiring to com-  
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Boys should leave their names at the time of getting their papers so that  
we may keep an accurate record of their sales.

Some time ago THE IDEA gave away a Watch and nine other valuable  
prizes, and the winning boys did good work. One boy selling  
112 copies of THE IDEA of one issue. There is good  
money in it for the boys besides the prizes.

WEEKLY **5c** THE COPY

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

February 19, 1910

No. 8

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## The Trial of the Editor



## His Word to the Public.

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FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

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BEING SOME SERMONETTES PUBLISHED WEEKLY FOR THE  
COMMON GOOD AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA. By ADON A  
YODER, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER, 904 CAPITOL ST., RICH-  
MOND, VA. PRINTED AT WONDERWHERE, VA.



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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV      FEBRUARY      and 26, 1910      NOS. 8 and 9

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FIVE CENTS A COPY      \$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,  
904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## The Lynch- burg Matter.

### Mr. Glass Contradicts Himself.

---

(1). Yoder on stand Saturday "He withdrew that suit just as soon as he saw I was going to keep on and prove it."

(2). Glass' Paper Sunday, "Yoder himself under date of July 17th, 1906, in a letter to Mr. Glass confessed the falsity of his charge."

(Glass explained no further.)

(3). Glass' letter of 20th July, 1906, "The charge you retract is not by any means the only or most objectionable.

. . . . .

## THE IDEA

In confining your retraxit to only one you reiterate the rest."

(4). Yoder's letter to Glass, July 24th, "I did not make any other statements the untruth of which I am aware of. . . . I of course have nothing further to retract."

(5). Glass, on the stand Monday, "I regarded the statements Yoder retracted as the most serious."

(Now read No. 3).

(6). Yoder, later, "There were (5) five separate editorials concerning Mr. Glass. Only one was retracted. The most offensive ones, which he said were both false and most offensive, were never retracted because they were true."

Mr. Glass wrote he would publish my letter if I did retract. He stated on the stand that he never published my letters. The Idea published all three of them in August, 1906. If Mr. Glass had regarded my letter as an apology for the alleged libel he would have published them, as he said he would."

Mr. Scherer in his letter to me of last Sunday, said, "Mr. Glass read me your letter of July 17th, in which you made the most unqualified retraction of an apology for the charges published." And gave this as a reason for doubting me.

I will simply state that I never have, as these three letters show, made such retraction of and apology for the charges published. Mr. Scherer was simply misled by Mr. Glass' statement which did not give all the facts. Everything the Editor said has been confirmed by further evidence and events.

A letter from Lynchburg says that a member of the J. P. Bell Co. had just substantiated my testimony and added; "Glass dropped the matter because you had him on the hip."

---

"There is no happiness, there is no liberty, there is no enjoyment of life, unless a man can say, when he rises in the morning, I shall be subject to the decision of no unwise judge today"--DANIEL WEBSTER.

## THE IDFA

# Public Stenographic Report.

( Brought from last page. )

---

of which I am aware of. I OF COURSE HAVE NOTHING FURTHER TO RETRACT.

I do want to say, however, that the magazine was written with no such animus as you seem to attribute to me, and that personally I have never had any illfeeling towards you, and I think that if you will take time to re-read it you will see that the motive which is apparent throughout the whole number is anything but VICE.

I feel that the people have a grievance and the "Idea" was on the defensive of them of whom I am one, rather than on the offensive to you, or anybody else.

Respectfully,

A. A. YODER.

---

Q. That ended the correspondence, did it not?

A. That ended the correspondence with Yoder.

Q. In which he declined to retract any charge he made?

A. Well, in which he said he had not made any.

Q. I do not see that he said that.

A. I do.

Q. Well, that is your conclusion. He had not retracted the offensive? you said.

A. I don't think he had—not the offensive. A charge can be very offensive without being in law libelous: but his other charges were so absolutely false, and known to be by the community that I did not care to go into any argument or correspondence about them. I have never taken any notice of Mr. Yoder, at all.

Q. You wrote this letter to Mr. Yoder?

A. I did.



## THE IDEA

- Q. In which you say to him that "it is not by any means the most objectionable misrepresentation concerning me, contained in the pamphlet."
- A. Exactly.
- Q. Now, Mr. Glass, is not this the charge as to which he retracted his allegation, to the extent of saying that he was mistaken, in supposing you were a member of the Council:  
(Here reads from "The Idea" the article beginning "The Hon. Carter Glass, while on a trip to Richmond, &c---and ending" "owned all the newspaper facilities of the town.)  
Now did he retract any statement in there except the fact that you were a member of the Council, and it turned out that you were a clerk of the Council?
- A. Well, if you want my opinion of it—
- Q. Did he make any retraction except that one?
- A. That, in Mr. Yoder's admission, was the kernel of the offence. He states here in his letter "Had I realized when I wrote that you were not a voting member of the Council, and were in no way responsible for the acts of that body, I of course would not have written that article."
- Q. Yes, sir, his idea being that you were a member of the Council; but that being clerk of the Council that would not justify his comment.
- A. He so states.
- Q. I say did he apologize for a single fact? Did he retract a single fact that he alleged, except that you were a member of the Council?
- A. He retracted the offensive suggestion contained in the article.

---

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## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure. 'Phone Monroe 2708,

# Public Stenographic Report

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## Of the Evidence in Reference to Glass.

---

### YODER ON THE STAND---SATURDAY.

Q. Is it not a fact that your attacks upon Mr. Carter Glass, editor of a paper there, were so personal and so false that he instituted a suit for damages against the publisher of your paper, the Bell Book and Stationery Company?

A. No, sir.

Q. It is not true?

A. No, sir, I can tell you what is true though.

MR. SMITH: You have answered my question.

WITNESS: I am not questioning the words, at all. The words you read I think are absolutely correct, there is no question about that. If you would read the whole article, you could see what I mean much better.

MR. SMITH: I was talking about the Bell Book & Stationery Company case, you understand.

WITNESS: Now what is your question?

MR. SMITH: I will reframe my question then and try to suit you.

(Counsel for defendant objected to the question being reframed, and insisted that the witness be allowed to finish his answer to the question as originally put.)

THE COURT: I allow the witness to give a full answer to the question that has been asked, but he must confine himself to the question; I don't want him to go back to any former question.

(The Stenographer here read over the previous question.)

## THE IDEA

- A. The truth is that I criticized Mr. Glass very severely for his action as a public official, and he entered suit immediately against the Bell Book & Stationery Company. He withdrew that suit just as soon as he saw I was going to keep on and prove it.
- Q. Is that your answer?
- A. That is my answer.
- Q. Is it not a fact that he dropped the suit on condition that a public apology was made to the people of Lynchburg, and the Bell Book Company paid all the expenses of that suit?
- A. No, sir; I am quite sure that all of that is false.
- Q. You say that the Bell Book Company made no apology to Mr. Glass?
- A. I do not know of any such apology.

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Arbuckle Coffee, per lb. . . . .	17	Large Irish Potatoes, per peck . . . . .	25
Church-Hill Pride Coffee, per lb. . . . .	17	Old Virginia Herring Roe, per can . . . . .	10
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Pork Steak, per lb. . . . .	18		

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## THE IDFA

Q. And you state then positively that the Bell Book Company made no apology, and that they did not pay Mr. Carter Glass' expenses in connection with his bringing the suit?

A. I don't know. You ask me to state positively—I will tell you what the Bell Company told me.

MR. SMITH: I will let you tell that if you will let me tell what the Bell people told me.

MR. MEREDITH: No, sir, I don't care about that.

WITNESS: I can state what is a well known fact about it. I can state what is known in Lynchburg about it.

MR. SMITH: Well, if you state what is known in Lynchburg, and will allow us to state what is known there, too—

THE COURT: I don't think any such statements as that are necessary.

Q. It is a fact though that a suit was brought by Mr. Carter Glass against the publishers of "The Idea" is it?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And it is a fact that that suit never came to trial, but was dismissed?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. And you say that it was dismissed because Mr. Carter Glass was afraid to face the issue and found out you were going to prove the truth of your assertions, and from cowardice withdrew it?

A. I think that is true—but I did not say that.

Q. That is very characteristic of Mr. Glass, is it not—cowardice?

THE COURT: I rule that question out.

BY MR. SMITH:

Q. Mr. Yoder, on last Saturday, during the progress of this trial, stated that it was true that you had brought a suit against the J. P. Bell Book Company—a civil suit for damages on account of this publication in "The Idea", and that it was true that you had dismissed it, but that it was not true, so far as he knew, that the J. P. Bell Company or anybody else had even offered any apologies or



## THE IDEA

retraction which led to its withdrawal; but on the contrary, you dismissed it because you were afraid if the case came to a trial, he, Yoder, would prove the charges against you. (Notice the falsities in this question.---Ed.)

MR. MEREDITH: He did not say "or anybody else"; he said not by the Bell Book Company or himself.

NOTE. I said I did not know of such by Bell and that I had not retracted the charges in alleged libel.---The Editor.

MR. SMITH: Very well—I will put it that way then. Now state whether that is true.

A. It is absolutely untrue.

Q. Will you state whether the J. P. Bell Company did make an apology and withdrawal, and whether A. A. Yoder, himself, made an apology?

MR. MEREDITH: Are they in writing.

WITNESS: I have them here.

MR. SMITH: I will ask you to read them.

A. I will state, with the permission of the Court, that after waiting for three days after the publication of this pamphlet—

Q. What was the date of that pamphlet?

A. Oh, sometime about—I would say about the 12th of July, 1906. After waiting about three days after the circulation of the pamphlet, containing what I claimed to be a libel, I authorized my attorneys to institute suit against the J. P. Bell Company, as the only responsible persons connected with the circulation of that pamphlet. Thereupon, on July 17th—

Q. That was after the suit had been brought?

A. That was after the suit had been instituted, I received this letter, signed Adon A. Yoder:

(Here reads letter dated Lynchburg, Va., July 17th 1906, from Adon A. Yoder to Carter Glass, Editor the News.)

Q. Now will you read the letter of the Bell Book Company?

A. Later on, on August 23rd, 1906, the J. P. Bell Company wrote me this letter:

## THE IDEA

(Here reads letter referred to.)

Now shall I read my reply to that letter?

MR. SMITH: Just as these gentlemen say. Do you object Mr Meredith?

MR. MEREDITH: Yes, sir, I object.

---

## CROSS-EXAMINATION.

By MR. MEREDITH:

Q. Is there anything else connected with this matter that would throw light on Mr. Yoder's statement on the stand, as to whether he had retracted his statement—or have you given all the information in your possession?

A. Well there are a good many things that throw light on the subject.

Q. Is it not a fact that there were other charges against you, and that he did not apologize for them?

A. It is a fact that there were other comments in the pamphlet, but it is also a fact that that particular charge was made the basis of the libel suit.

Q. Anything else?

A. No, sir; there were other defamatory comments in the pamphlet.

Q. They were all put in the declaration, were they not?

A. I don't know that a declaration was ever drawn.

Q. The basis of it was this article?

A. The basis of it was that article, yes—that charge of a corrupt transaction.

Q. Let us see if you regarded that as the most serious charge: do you say that was the most serious charge against you?

A. I think so.

Q. Let us see if you did not say to the contrary. Have you your letter to Mr. Yoder?

A. I have it here.

Q. Was it published?

## THE IDEA

A. In Yoder's pamphlet, yes.

Q. Was not the letter you have just read from Mr. Yoder to yourself published?

A. In Yoder's pamphlet, yes.

Q. There was no secrecy about that, was there?

A. Not at all.

Q. Didn't he publish your reply?

A. Yes, I have it here.

Q. Just follow it as I read, and see if I am correct.

A. Very well.

Q. You have not been asked about the letter I am now going to read to you—by the Commonwealth's Attorney?

A. No.

MR. SMITH: Did I know anything about it?

WITNESS: No.

Q. Then did you only give partial information to the Commonwealth Attorney?

A. I got here only ten minutes before Court opened.

Q. Did you not read to Mr. Scherer on yesterday only a part of the letter you read here this morning?

A. Yes, and I told him so. I did not read it all because I supposed he had the long distance 'phone at a cost to himself.

Q. So what you read to Mr. Scherer is only a part of the letter you read this morning?

A. That is right, and I so told him.

Q. Did you read any other letter?

A. Yes, Bell's letter in full.

Q. Did you read your reply to Yoder's letter?

A. I did not.

MR. MEREDITH: Now let us see what that said.

(Mr. Meredith reads.)

(Small capitals are ours.—Editor.)

## THE IDEA

Lynchburg, Va., July 20th, 1906.

Mr. A. A. Yoder,

Lynchburg, Va.

Sir:—

I have your letter of the 17th inst., retracting, regretting and admitting the injustice of certain of the offensive personal references to me made in an anonymous pamphlet issued from the presses of the J. P. Bell Company of this city, the authorship of which pamphlet you acknowledge.

I note your request that I publish in the "News" your withdrawal of the charge made in the pamphlet concerning a business transaction in which I was engaged 8 years ago, and your attempted exoneration of the J. P. Bell Co. from culpability in the premises.

Responding specially to these points in your letter, I have to say that **THE CHARGE YOU RETRACT** and for which you offer to apologize publicly **IS NOT BY ANY MEANS THE ONLY OR MOST OBJECTIONABLE MISREPRESENTATION** concerning me contained in the pamphlet. You have charged, in terms, that I am "controlled by the Lynchburg Traction and Light Co." and have quite as broadly intimated that there is between that Company and my newspaper a despicable and **CORRUPT COLLUSION** to suppress facts and withhold proper comments upon the conduct of this Company.

**THESE CHARGES ARE AS UNTRUE AS THE ONE YOU RETRACT**, and a casual inspection of the recent files of the **NEWS** or the most incidental inquiry would have sufficed to show the vice of your suggestion.

In your letter you profess willingness to make amends for whatever "errors or mistakes" you have made, as well as to make public acknowledgement thereof. If you are as anxious as you profess to be to do me no injustice and to right any wrong already done me, your retraction should embrace unqualifiedly all the misrepresentations of fact



## THE IDEA

concerning me contained in the pamphlet; OTHERWISE YOU CAN SCARCELY EXPECT me to PUBLISH YOUR LETTER, because BY CONFINING YOUR RETRAXIT specifically TO ONLY ONE of a series of misstatements of fact, YOU REITERATE THE REST.

I do not feel concerned about your criticisms of the course of the NEWS so far as such criticisms are not based upon misstatements of fact involving my personal character, and such a retraction as I have indicated will, if made, be published in THE NEWS.

As to the J. P. Bell Company, it has expressed no regret and offered no apology for its part in publishing these defamatory charges; but as I am informed asserts its right to print whatever is paid to print about anybody, no matter how seriously such publication may affect the reputation of a citizen. In view of this remarkable attitude, I have taken the only course as to this Company which seems to promise me redress and vindication.

Respectfully

(Signed) CARTER GLASS

---

MR. MEREDITH: To that, Mr. Yoder replied as follows, did he not, sir

WITNESS: I don't know that have that letter here. I have seen it though, and I will verify the correctness of it. Go ahead.

(Mr. Meredith reads letter referred to.)

Lynchburg, Va., July 24th, 190

Mr. Carter Glass,

City,

Dear Sir:—

In reply to your letter of the 20th, the tone of which to say the least is unworthy of the occasion. I have to say that inasmuch as the "Idea" did not charge that YOU were controlled by the Lynchburg Traction and Light Co., nor make any other statements the untruth

---

(Carried to page three.)

# Prizes for Boys--February-March Contest

Ten prizes will be given to the ten boys selling the greatest number of IDEAS in February and March. Prizes were recently given out for the November contest. A handsome watch was the first prize, and first quality stag handle pocket knives were given to the nine boys selling the nine next largest numbers. One boy sold 226 copies in the month, thus making, at 2 cents each, \$4.52, besides the watch.

Selling IDEAS pays the boys well even if they do not secure the first prize.

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For Dyspepsia and Indigestion, use Copodone Liver Pills.

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WEEKLY **5c** THE COPY

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

March 5, 1910

No. 10

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— — — — —

Edited at

City Jail.

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FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

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200 E. MARSHALL ST.

More than 50 Years Experience.

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A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

MARCH 5, 1910

No. 10

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## Sunday Selling.

THE IDEA is being fought against, not because it has slandered any one, but because it has contended for law enforcement and has thus hurt the finances of those businesses which rely for their profits on their ability to freely and openly violate the law with the knowledge and sanction of those who have sworn to enforce the law.

Three weeks ago, after a long campaign conducted by this paper, the stores of Richmond were closed up tight on Sunday in accordance with the law.

The very next Sunday they were open again because in the meantime it appeared that The Idea would likely stop publishing because of the overwhelming odds aligned against it.

The Idea has stood and will stand for all law enforcement. If the law is not good, change the law, but keep on enforcing the ones you've got and stop making hypocrites and liars

out of the officers of the law who swear to do one thing and are then forced to do another because they "have no instructions". When the people of Richmond will say that they regard the private instructions of others more weighty than the law itself, then and only then will we refuse to fight this battle which means so much to our own progeny.

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## To the People.

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The fight against existing evils will continue but if it is to be effective it will cost something for defence, not to keep the editor out of jail,—don't worry about him. He don't mind paying the price when he considers the great victory in arousing the people as these trials have done by exposing the deeds of those who protect the violators of the laws while they are sworn to enforce those laws. Tho the burden has been hard to bear because of the sorrows imposed on the family of the editor, those burdens can not be shared by you, but you can help just a little by helping to bear the financial burdens of this fight which has cost us almost \$500.00 so far. This has been raised with the exception of about \$50.00, by friends.

If others desire to help pay this \$50.00 and the expense of reversing in the Supreme court, the action in the civil case brought by Clyde Saunders, they may do so by sending word to 524 A. North 8th St., The Idea's temporary office.

If however you cant love your enemies or if you have any malice towards any individual we have felt called on to expose please do us the favor not to offer to help us fight municipal evils, for under the present instructions the editor may have to go to jail on your account altho when you give your 5c. piece we do not know you have it in for the rascals we are after. Just be careful for our sake, for we can't know how you feel till after it's too late.

## THE IDEA

# Whiskey Men Here From all over Country To Work on Legislature

---

A drummer who knows the whiskey salesmen tells us that Murphy's Hotel is crowded with whiskey salesmen from all over the country. These men are here to see that our legislature does not pass any legislation such as is now before it.

The whiskey people pretend to believe in local option, in letting the people of any locality settle this question for themselves, while all the time the brewers of Milwaukee and the distillers of Kentucky are descending on Richmond with their pockets full of money to see to it that Virginians do not get what they are demanding of their legislature, namely, the right to have a vote on this big question.

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## WEEKLY PRICE LIST

R. L. PARKER

Phone Madison 4935-J

C. N. PARKER

GET IT AT

## PARKEK BROTHERS GROCERIES

520 N. 26th Street

Richmond, Va.

Gold Medal Flour, per bag . . . 44	Winner Condensed Milk, per can . 11
Obelisk Flour, per bag . . . 44	3 Large Cans Uncle Ned Tomatoes . 28
Dunlop Flour, per bag . . . 44	6 Bars Octagon Soap . . . 25
Clover Leaf Flour, per bag . . . 44	Good Mackerel . . . . . 05
Arbuckle Coffee, per lb. . . . 17	Large Irish Potatoes, per peck . . 25
Church-Hill Pride Coffee, per lb. . 17	Old Virginia Herring Roe, per can 10
PURITY BUTTERINE, per lb. 23	Smoked Shoulder, per lb. . . . 14
Good Lard, per lb. . . . . 15	
Round Beef Steak, per lb. . . . 15	
Pork Steak, per lb. . . . . 18	

### SPECIAL

A Good Flour at 43c. per bag.

All Goods not mentioned are in line with our low prices.



## The Truth.

---

We have established in court the truth of and the justification for all articles which have been made the basis of actions in court against us altho the daily papers which have been bitter and maliciously false in their reports of the recent trials, have tried to make the people believe that our publication has made false statements, by printing that we "failed to substantiate charges" and similar misleading and untrue statements.

Let it be known that we did fail to substantiate in court at least one hundred charges which we have made against political crooks here for the simple reason that we have not been called on to substantiate them.

The law required us to prove the truth of only those articles charged against us as libelous. We did not attempt to prove them altho we stand ready at all times to do so when their truth is properly challenged.

It is a remarkable fact that the prosecution has offered no evidence, even about matters we were not called on to prove, which even tended to show falsity of our charges except in the unimportant details of two minor affairs, and even then they so failed to make their point that they did not even dare refer to it in their long and denunciatory and bitter final speeches. They spent all their oratory in vilification and abuse which had no foundation in the evidence but had to be resorted to because of the weakness of their cause.

The daily papers have danced in glee at their opportunity to make the people believe that in some detail The Idea was not correct, (altho their reports were false) and yet these same papers are daily filled with lies and libelous lies, but their inability to be truthful and accurate is being so generally recognized that the offended parties are tiring of asking that the falsities be corrected for they consider that it is not so harmful after all for a well known liar to tell a lie about them.

The reason The Idea has so many suits is because it has the reputation of telling only the truth.

## THE IDEA

# Important.

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Tho money was lent the editor of this paper to begin operations here it was lent with the understanding that it was to be paid back when the paper made it back which we then expected to be inside of one month. Since the paper has not made anything and since the fact of the loan has been used by others to have the editor sentenced to jail and fined fifty dollars and costs, forty eight more; and since Mr. Atkinson has all along held that we did not owe him anything and since, altho up to this time we have felt obligated to him to the extent of the loan, we are not now in any way morally or financially obligated for this loan;—since all this is now the case, The Idea will continue its fight with the same methods and policy which have governed it since it began in July, 1906 and which have continued with no change or alteration whatever in all that time.

Our financial obligation to Mr. Atkinson which was the reason for the court instructing against us can no longer be so used because that obligation has been annulled.

Will YOU help The Idea take the Saunders case to the Supreme Court; or are you satisfied to let it be said that no citizen of Richmond has a right to criticize a man running for office?

The court held that Saunders could be criticized if he had made mistakes but if he had made bad mistakes which showed him morally unfit, The Idea could not say so. The Supreme Court has held otherwise. Will you help us let them decide this case?

## Slaves.

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They are slaves who fear to speak

For the fallen and the weak.

They are slaves who dare not be

In the right with two or three.—Lowell.

## The Motive,

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Judge a man's motives by his works and not by what his enemies say about him.

They say we were after money. While the Editor was borrowing money he did not even pay his own personal and running expenses but went into debt for them.

While publishing this paper we have made a thin summer suit do winter service and in all other things, for the lack of money we have denied ourselves what we had formerly considered necessities in order to keep up a fight against evil.

They say our motives were base. We knew when we began that it meant perhaps a jail sentence, perhaps assassination, perhaps more.

We have taken the jail sentence and two assaults and villainous slander which have robbed us of friends and confidence and today we can look back and say we rejoice at the course we have pursued.

Can a tree bring forth fruit both good and evil?

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"I have done many good deeds among you. For which of these do you stone me".

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## A Mistake?

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Our friends tell us we make a mistake in fighting so boldly as to lay ourselves liable to harm.

This is not a mistake.

One can not make a real fight without getting on the firing line and sometimes getting hit. If you don't get hit may be you aren't a real soldier after all, maybe you are where they don't fight, back in the commissary department.

The man who is not a coward is the one that is wounded and killed. The stay-at-home don't get shot. J. E. B. Stuart is honored because he got hit. He put himself on the danger line. The Idea is on the danger line and what care we if we get hit or if our paper is killed. When it dies it will die fighting for right and will not be ashamed.

But remember we have fired some shots ourselves which we dare believe, from the consternation in the camps of evil, have hit something.

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## Make Richmond a Great City.

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"What makes a city great and strong?

Not architecture's graceful strength,

Not factories' extended length,

But men who see the civic wrong,

And give their lives to make it right,

And turn its darkness into light."

---

Fresh air and light are wholesome to those who can stand them.

If fresh air hurts you then you are sick.

If these breezy lines hurt you, YOU need a doctor. The trouble is not in the fresh air furnished by this paper, it's with you.

Notice it's the sick people (morally) that complain. Better see a preacher instead of paying a lawyer when The Idea hits you.

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## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure, 'Phone Monroe 2708,



# Why the two Cases were lost.

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The Saunders case was lost only because the judge instructed the jury, whatever they thought about the merits of the case, to give damages to Saunders.

We feel confident that this judge will be reversed by the Supreme Court. When the instructions were read, we told Mr. Meredith not to argue the case.

The last case was lost because neither Mr. Meredith nor the editor was physically able to either bring out the evidence that we had planned to bring out or the evidence in regard to the Atkinson loan, which would have proven that our articles criticizing Judge Witt and others were not only not inspired by Atkinson but were directly contrary to Atkinson's wishes. We were too exhausted by loss of sleep from nursing during these trials three sick children at night, and by the intense strain of the court proceedings, to even attempt a defence.

The prosecution very unfairly forced the issue when they knew we were unable to defend because they realized in that their only hope.

Mr. Meredith for the first time in his life begged a postponement on the ground of his worn out condition. We were too exhausted to even think about showing:

1. The connection between a certain crooked politician and the Molloy woman.
2. Between this crooked politician and the other women of ill fame.
3. A certain city official and the Molloy woman.
4. The crooked politician and the city official.
5. The crooked politician and a crooked lawyer.
6. This crooked lawyer and the women—and much other important testimony. We just made a bust because flesh and blood has a limit to its endurance.

# Thanks

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The Editor desires to express sincerest thanks to the hosts of friends who stood by him in his trials and who visited him in jail. We did not know we had so many friends until they besieged us with kindnesses and fruits and flowers and visits and letters and messages of confidence and sympathy to such an extent that we have actually not found time to read the daily papers or answer our mail since the sentence began.

## Announcement.

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Last week and this week The Idea has been handicapped by the incarceration of the editor. Next week we'll be back to normal. Be sure and get these numbers. Subscribe to The Idea today, only \$2.00 a year, \$1.00 for six months

## Dangerous to Talk in Richmond.

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Just think of it!

With ninety-nine percent of the citizens of Richmond the best in the world and yet so dominated by one percent of those with no principle that IT IS DANGEROUS for the people to talk among themselves about their own affairs. From The Idea June 12, 1909.

Thou camest not to thy place by accident: It is the very place God meant for thee.—French.

## No. 14 South 8th Street.

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Below Main Street on eighth street there are two houses the characters of which are well known in Richmond.

Mr. Manning, Police Commissioner, testified on the witness stand that these two houses were in "the red light district" altho he had previously defined "the red light district" as being the Mayo and Franklin street section.

The Editor then went on the stand and showed that one of these two houses, No. 14 S. 8th, was rented for immoral purposes by Jas. R. Gordon, father of Douglas Gordon, the police commissioner who was offended because we charged a corrupt alliance between the police department and the trade in vice. That evidence was introduced to show that we were justified in our assertion of a corrupt alliance as defined by Webster. Here is what our Webster's dictionary says of the word corrupt: We give the complete list of definitions.

CORRUPT 1. Changed from a sound to a putrid state; unsound. 2. Depraved; not genuine or correct. v. t. 1. To change from a sound to a putrid or putrescent state, or from good to bad; to defile. 2. To entice from rectitude or duty. 3. To falsify. 4. To spoil. -v. i. 1 To putrify; to rot. 2. To become vitiated:

Now that is all our dictionary of 744 pages says about corrupt. It don't mention money consideration at all. But Mr. Harry Smith did find in some dictionary some where a secondary or tertiary or quarternary definition of corrupt which showed that the word sometimes referred to money altho this was not its natural or primary meaning.

It the light of this secondary meaning, notice what Mr. Manning said on the stand. He said that the landlords gouged these women by raising rents. Now in view of that and in view of the well known fact that these houses do rent for two and three times what they would otherwise rent for you may draw your own conclusion as to whether The Idea was

justified in calling this a corrupt alliance even in the sense, not used by us as is evident from the connection, of there being a money consideration.

We however were not convicted for want of justification for our charges but the court held that the alleged malice of another must be imputed to us.

Notice that we have violated no statute law but were simply convicted on the ruling of the judge on a doctrine which is new in such cases in Virginia and this law was not so made by the judge until after the alleged offence was committed.

## Our Courts.

"The idea sometimes expressed that judges on the bench are above criticism in a democracy like ours is not tenable. Our courts require the most constant scrutiny and the sharpest solicitude on the part of citizens to keep them above suspicion. It would be ridiculous . . . to assume that political lawyers . . . are suddenly transformed into human paragons. . . . The American bench will be respected purely ON ITS MERITS, and not through the preaching of the doctrine of exaggerated respect for the courts regardless of the character and conduct of the judges."—Editorial Jan'y Review of Reviews.

The Idea has frequently criticized our courts whenever we felt they deserved it and we will continue to do so whenever we please in spite of judges "preaching the doctrine of exaggerated respect for the courts regardless of the character and conduct of the judges." The character and conduct of judges is perhaps the most important thing any democracy has to consider, altho Harry Smith, DEFENDER OF THE COURTS, and the GOOD NAME political of Richmond actually tried to make the jury believe that The Idea had committed a crime in showing that Judge Witt had sentenced Conway to the penitentiary and later satisfied himself that Conway's reputation,—not character, mind you,—but reputation, was good, and granted such a man a license to sell poison. Whe-e-e-we. Next!



# Kill The Idea.

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## Kill its Advertisers too.

Just before going into the trial on the libel warrant the prosecution made the astounding proposition that they would agree to a postponement of the trial if we would agree to stop publishing The Idea in the meantime. On the advice of counsel we had offered to stop publishing anything about the parties, Manning, Gordon and Crutchfield in the meantime if they would agree to a postponement until we could rest up for the trial.

This was not agreed to, and their counter proposition shows that the real object of the opposition to The Idea is to kill The Idea because it turns on the light.

Likewise our advertisers have been intimidated and black-mailed by those unprincipled parties who do not believe in the freedom of the press when the press fights those evils by which they gain their profits.

One of our advertisers recently received a letter telling him that he and his child would be found in some alley with their throats cut if his Ad in The Idea was not discontinued.

If you do not want The Idea destroyed and the good work it has begun all undone, you can help The Idea defend itself in court by your financial help.

We ask no help for our personal needs. We can, we believe keep the wolf from the door, but the fight against evil is your fight and we will do more than our part if you will do yours only half way. We need at least \$500.00 to take the Saunders suit to the supreme court. About \$500.00 has been given so far and no one has felt the burden except us. Do your part and Good Old Richmond will be able to throw off its fearful political disease.

## VILE LANGUAGE.

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We have never heard such vile and slanderous and foul language as was emitted by Smith and Scott, defenders of the good name of Saunders and Manning, et al's, in the recent trials. The Idea employed men of such high character as to be morally incapable of such base methods. Such men as Saunders and Manning needed just such men as Smith and Scott.

When your client is guilty, better throw mud at the other fellow.

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## IN JAIL.

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"I'd rather be the Editor of The Idea in jail than some folks I know out of jail." From The Idea, Nov. 4, 1906.

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## The Policy of The Idea.

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When THE IDEA began publication, in Lynchburg four years ago, we had already discovered the seat of lack of law enforcement, and the attendant evils of our city governments, in the system which put so much power into the hands of an irresponsible police board. So that in our first number in July, 1906, before we knew Richmond had any similar troubles, we had published the article printed below concerning the police board. Policeman Short had arrested a man for violating the law, had put him in the van and had taken him to police headquarters, according to instructions which he dared not disobey. Now it happened that the arrested one had

friends high up in authority and so the officer was ordered to apologize to the lawbreaker for putting him in the van. The Idea therefore wrote:

IN THE IDEA, JULY, 1906.

When officer Short obeyed the law as he should have done, the WEEK KNEED POLICE BOARD, instead of commending the officer's obedience and discharging the chief for ever making such a rule, made the officer apologize.

The chief by not upholding his subordinate in the discharge of his sworn duty, and taking the blame upon himself for ever making such a fool rule, showed his lack of courage and unfitness for office. The Board admitted that the chief was to blame by ordering that the rule in question be annulled, but for some inexplicable reason saddled the responsibility on the minor officer, and added insult to injury by making him publicly apologize to a law breaker whom he had arrested. All honor to officer Short. All dishonor to Chief Pendleton and Messrs. Watts, Adams and Harvey, (The police board.)

---

In that same number of The Idea we condemned those in authority for the red light evil and showed their responsibility for it.

We showed up the daily papers in their connection with the violation of the law and exposed the connection of Judge Christian with the renting of bar rooms. All this was years before we ever heard of Richmond's crooked ring or knew of the one to whose malice they now charge The Idea's fighting such evils. When we came here we continued the fight along the same lines exactly, and used exactly the same methods, and after finding the same officers guilty we exposed them.

The biggest difference between the fight here and in Lynchburg is this, the FIRST PERSON we found it necessary to harshly criticize was one Clyde W. Saunders, reputed political boss. In Lynhburg we showed up the police board and the court, both of which were in alliance with crime or worthy of harsh criticism.

Here, though we believed Judge Witt a much cleaner man than the Lynchburg Judge, we finally found in the Conway

matter and the 18th Street bar license matter, that he too deserved the harshest criticism and so we printed it although we knew that to print such criticism was against Mr. Atkinson's wishes, for at that time he was applying for a license in Judge Witt's court and it was generally known that Atkinson had lent me money and Atkinson expressed to me his regret after I had printed,—he did not know before it came out,—and his belief that it might hurt him.

I expressed to him my regret that what my paper might do should hurt in any way one who had helped me, but I told him that I felt it my duty to expose wrong wherever I found it and so when the Conway affair came up and it appeared that Judge Witt had sentenced this man to the penitentiary and afterwards granted him a license to sell whiskey, after satisfying himself that the man had a good reputation, I again felt it my duty to show up this gross inconsistency, and wrote two editorials about it, although Mr. Atkinson after each article had been published indicated his belief that my publication was hurting him.

The charge that I fought or failed to fight, (I do not know which they charge me with) Chris. Manning and those connected with him and their connection with the red light district for any other motive than the big one which is apparent to all readers of *The Idea*, namely, for the common good, is so absurd in view of his reputation here that I do not deem it worthy of reply at this time. Suffice it to say that *The Idea* was fighting these evils and those responsible for them years before these victims of such conditions and circumstances were ever known to be guilty by the editor and that the policy of this paper in no way changed because of a loan from any one, (although the temptation is of course great to even fail to do a duty because of a desire not to hurt one who had done a favor to us,) and will in no way change in the future although today we are under no financial obligations to Mr. Atkinson.

Therefore we shall oppose evil in the future with the same zeal as we have in the past, although we realize that the burden in grief and tears and financial loss and desertion and distrust of friend and loved ones is more grievous to bear than any one who has not experienced it can imagine, for that same "duty" which R. E. Lee said was the subimest word in the English language impells us as with an irresistible power to do those things which hurt us to the quick.



## Warning.

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If you are going into any mercantile business to make money, you can borrow money from anybody and it's all right, but if you are going to fight evil, ah! that's another matter, you are not permitted to borrow from any man, for all that other man's supposed malice, although he has never been tried and convicted on any such charge, may be imputed to you and you'll be sent to jail. Ever since the days of the Carpenter-Preacher of Galilee it has been the practice of evil doers when exposed, not to show that they were innocent, nor that the accuser was guilty of any wrong but to retreat behind such statements as this: "That crazy reformer is nothing but a carpenter who came down here from Galilee, and besides he accepts the hospitality of, and is a friend of publicans and sinners."

They said he was crazy.

They said he was a reformer.

They said he was a poor man.

They said he had no authority, he was not of the priesthood.

They said he was an outsider and meddler from Galilee.

They said his friends were sinners.

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## A Hot Shot.

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Have you ever noticed how long it takes for a moderate drinker to find out that he has any bad habits.—Christian Herald.

---

Nothing that any one else does really matters. It is what YOU do that will count."

---

"Learn the luxury of doing good."

## "FOR MEN ONLY"

We wish to announce to our many customers that we are now located in our store at No. 618 East Main St., and are fully equipped to put your OLD DULL SAFETY RAZOR BLADES in perfect condition, "while you wait" for 30c. per dozen. We also GRIND RAZORS, SCISSORS, CARVING AND POCKET KNIVES, and any kind of a sharp edge tool, and we absolutely guarantee our work to please you in every respect. Give us a trial and we will prove to you and convince you that we are experts in this line of work.

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Razors Horned And Set 15c. Each.

Mail Orders Will Receive Prompt Attention.

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### THE "SHARP-O" CO.

618 EAST MAIN STREET.

# A. H. EWING

**CEMENT PAVING  
CONTRACTOR**



62 NORTH LOMBARDY STREET

PHONE 1821

RICHMOND, VA.

Estimates cheerfully given on Sidewalk  
Paving, Halls, Vestibules, Basements, &c.

---

The Editor has known Mr. Ewing personally for the last twenty years, and he takes pleasure in stating that his reputation for first-class work and straight forward, satisfactory dealing is unexcelled.

PROMPT SERVICE.

POLITE ATTENTION.

TELEPHONE 738.

# JOHN W. GOODE

(Formerly with G. Watt Taylor)

- - - FANCY AND STAPLE GROCERIES, - - -  
FRESH MEATS, VEGETABLES, CANNED GOODS,  
FRUITS, TOBACCO, CIGARS, Etc.

2520 E. BROAD ST., - - - RICHMOND, VA.

## PRIZES

### FOR BOYS

"THE IDEA" WILL GIVE PRIZES TO  
Newsboy who get the greatest number of weekly subscribers and  
other prizes to those who sell the most copies.

The Contest will begin with the 1st of December and boys desiring to com-  
pete should begin today to work for their weekly subscriptions.

Boys should leave their names at the time of getting their papers so that  
we may keep an accurate record of their sales.

Some time ago THE IDEA gave away a Watch and nine other valuable  
prizes, and the winning boys did good work. One boy selling  
112 copies of THE IDEA of one issue. There is good  
money in it for the boys besides the prizes.

WEEKLY **5c** THE COPY

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

March 12, 1910

No. 11

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## BOLLING BUCKLES

### And Other Matters of Interest in This Number

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FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

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BEING SOME SERMONETTES PUBLISHED WEEKLY FOR THE  
COMMON GOOD AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, By ADON A,  
YODER, EDITOR, PUBLISHER AND PRINTER 904  
CAPITOL STREET, RICHMOND, VA.



# Prizes for Boys--February-March Contest

Ten prizes will be given to the ten boys selling the greatest number of IDEAS in February and March. Prizes were recently given out for the November contest. A handsome watch was the first prize, and first quality stag handle pocket knives were given to the nine boys selling the nine next largest numbers. One boy sold 226 copies in the month, thus making, at 2 cents each, \$4.52, besides the watch.

Selling IDEAS pays the boys well even if they do not secure the first prize.

JEWELER

J. S. JAMES

OPTICIAN

7th AND MAIN STS.

We have in our Fall Stock, and are  
showing special good values in

DIAMONDS, WATCHES, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, CUT GLASS, Etc.

We invite your inspection

For Chapped hands and Lips and Rough Skin use Soothing Balm.

For dry or falling Hair, Dandruff and diseased Scalp, use  
Regal Hair Tonic.

For troublesome Coughs use Phlorizine.

For Dyspepsia and Indigestion, use Copodone Liver Pills.

For Pimples and Skin Eruptions, use Aromatic Tonic Bitters  
and Iodide Sarsaparilla.

---

For the Best Medicines extant, Go to

- A. H. ROBINS, -

200 E. MARSHALL ST.

More than 50 Years Experience.

# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

MARCH 12, 1910

No. 11

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## Bolling's Buckles

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### City Engineer Makes Another Costly Error for the Tax Payers to Pay

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LAST FALL, under the direction of the City Engineer, the City began an enormous sewer along Ninth street and up Broad street for many blocks. The contracting firm of I. J. Smith & Co. did the work. When the job was turned over to the city recently and put to use it developed that the sewer was not a sewer and would not carry off the sewer age but was soon filled up or broken and that the job was an immense failure.

When the council wanted to know what the trouble was, our genial engineer, Mr. Bolling attempted to use his old excuse and told them that the sewer had "buckled."

Now when we look into the meaning of Mr. Bolling's buckles we find that he told us that the failure of the so-called cement floor out at the settling basin was due to the action of the sun which had caused it to "buckle", while the real cause was that the stuff was rotten, there not being enough cement in it to hold it together. In other words the city had thrown away its money by not employing an engineer competent to handle the job.

Next the streets in Fairmount buckled up and ran all over the neighborhood to the cost to the city of many thousands of dollars more because Mr. Bolling had not looked after his job.

And now we find sewers, perhaps 25 feet under ground, "buckling," and the engineer says the contractor is to blame and the contractor says he lived up to contract.

At the meeting of the Council Committee on Streets on Mar. 3rd, the engineer's report which censured the inspector of the job, was read.

And right here we wish to make a point.

When the flume broke the blame was placed on incompetent inspectors. When the Fairmount blunders were made the blame was placed on subordinate engineers.

And now when the sewer buckles they tell us it was the incompetency of the inspector.

Now when a large business concern finds that the subordinates in a certain department are continually going wrong you know what that concern does. It does not waste its time directly with the individuals whom the foreman says were wrong. Oh no. That business concern gets a new foreman for that job. And that is where the trouble lies in the engineering department.

The reason that the city has lost its thousands and tens of thousands with rotten flumes and settling basins and surveying blunders and sewers is that the job is too big for the man in charge. Mr. Bolling may be the best man in the world morally and socially but if he is not engineer enough to manage Richmond's engineering business it's time to get another

engineer, even if the councilmen who elect happen to belong to the same club and are closely associated with the engineer.

This keeping a man in office because he's "a good fellow" has cost Richmond hundreds of thousands of dollars and the papers won't dare use their influence to correct the evils because they are dominated by men who likewise are good club members. Richmond city government should be managed as a big business without regard for social qualifications and with regard only to economy and efficiency.

Even if I. J. Smith & Co. are to blame for the "buckling" sewer, the city engineer is also responsible, for it was done under him as engineer and his duty as engineer is just that thing. Of course his duty is not to build sewers, it is to see that his hands or the contractor's hands do it right. If it was not done right he certainly is to blame whether others are or not.

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## Foolish Street Car Rules

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The Passenger and Power Co. has made an extremely foolish and disconcerting rule in ordering that cars be stopped for passengers at some corners on the near side of the street and at others on the far side.

We had often wondered why the management was so wasteful of time as to stop on both sides of the street as they used to do, and now we wonder again that they do not see the needless confusion occasioned by stopping on the near side at 1st street, on the far side from 1st up to 7th, and on the near side again at 7th, 8th and 9th streets.

Much more time must always be lost, as long as there is this bungle, by waiting for passengers to cross from one side to the other, than would be lost by always stopping only on the far side for passengers and coming to a second's stop only (not for the entrance or exit of passengers) on the near side of track crossings.

This is the method adopted in other cities and is the only one that will avoid confusion, dissatisfaction and delay, especially on the part of that portion of the public which does not travel enough to keep familiar with the rules.



## THE IDEA

# Major Hemphill

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In the first editorial in the Times-Dispatch from the pen of Major Hemphill he took particular pains to state that he did not believe in sumptuary laws. Now do you know what he meant by that little remark? Why should he have made it anyway? There must have been a reason for it.

Are there any sumptuary laws in contemplation in Virginia?

The only laws that Virginia has ever passed or ever will pass of this nature are those prohibiting the consumption of harmful and poisonous drugs. On the theory that alcohol is such a poison a large part of Virginia has legislated its sale out of existence and within the next few years the State will banish it forever from her borders. Now everybody knows that the major had in mind nothing but the whiskey question when he wrote that line, and also everybody knows that the major is enlightened enough to believe in sumptuary laws that prevent the consumption of other poisons, such as cocaine and morphine, altho they may sometimes be wisely taken to the bodily comfort of the consumer. Therefore everybody knows that the major did not mean he did not believe in sumptuary laws but that he really meant he was a whiskeyite all over. He really meant he was wet, and knowing that such a position needed some other ground on which to rest, for every real brainy whiskeyite realizes the utter unreasonableness of his position,—he just jumped over the real question—it was too embarrassing to state his position exactly in plain English—and said he did not er-a-er-a-a-believe in sumptuary laws, you know.

Likewise everybody realizes that the Times-Dispatch has done a wonderful and valuable work for the cause of the whiskey people and they know that if the major had not been one who-a-did not believe in a-ra-sumptuary laws, the Supreme never would have hired him to write editorials. You get The Idea? Thank you.

## The Red Light District No. 2

Altho Mr. Manning said on the witness stand that it was the policy of the police board to show no quarter to assignation houses, still it is a notorious fact that the house No. 14. S. 8th St., which with the one across the street comprises a little red light district separate from the main one, is one of the worst assignation houses in town, ranking with the Molloy house and others which we will not name at this time but will show up later on.

## An Awful Crime

The Times-Dispatch has just hired a man from South Carolina to edit their paper and we learn that the man has actually come here altho he was not a tax payer of Richmond and not even of the State of Virginia, and so far as we can learn had not a dollar's worth of interest in the town. This is the awful crime for which the Times-Dispatch censured the editor of The Idea, altho he had a direct interest in the government of his capitol city, especially when his own state laws were being violated openly by the officials of that city.

Now of course Major Hemphill is not to be blamed or censured if he never owned a cent's worth of property here and never does do so.

We merely publish this to show how hard up the prosecution and persecution of The Idea got that they had to use such stuff as argument against us. If we had done any real wrong whatever you know the opposition would not have thought of resorting to such argument to discredit us.

The best citizens that come here, and a large part of Richmond's best citizens were not born here, are wise enough to come here BEFORE they buy a cent's worth of property here. They are not so foolish as to buy property without seeing it.

No, neither Mr. Hemphill nor the editor of The Idea is to be blamed for making Richmond his home before becoming a tax payer to the city.

## Petty Persecution.

---

A short time back, in December or January, a representative of the city called at the writer's home and told his wife that he had come to cut off the water. He was asked for what cause as the water rent was paid in advance. The water man said he did not know, but that he had orders to cut it off and must obey. Thereupon the receipt was produced which showed that the water had been paid for up to a certain time in the future. The water man said he could not help that; he must obey orders.

So without even telephoning to the city hall to see if any mistake had been made he proceeded to cut off the water.

Now it happened that the servant needed water for washing and there was a fire in the range, so for fear of trouble the writer's wife immediately betook herself to the writer's office and informed him of the high-handed proceedings. Thereupon the writer repaired to the city hall and demanded to know the cause of such actions.

There he was told that it was a mistake and that they thought the house was vacant.

Knowing that it is human to err he was inclined to accept the explanation and drop the matter, but since he has seen how the whole ring has worked incessantly to damage him in every way fair or foul which it could command, he had a right to think that it was nothing more than a piece of petty persecution.

If the reason for the cutting off was the supposed vacancy of the house the water man certainly found out it was not vacant when he turned it off.

If the department had any desire to keep from working a wrong to the writer it should certainly have sent a man with common courtesy enough to telephone and find out the trouble after being shown a receipt which must have made him know he was in error.

It is dangerous to criticize in Richmond. Among others we have felt called upon to criticize Mr. Morgan R. Mills chairman of the Water Committee of the Council.

But we must not draw any inferences from these circumstances so we will leave it with you.

# NEXT WEEK

---

The Idea will be straight from the shoulder. It will contain, among other live matter, an open address

## “TO RICHMOND MOTHERS,”

A dignified, refined treatment of a vital, burning question, and should be read by every mother in the community.

There will be nothing to offend the “Great or the near great” or the most modest—but

## IT WILL BE TO THE POINT

---

## FIVE ONE DOLLAR BILLS

As Extra Prizes to the five boys selling the biggest number of Ideas next week.

GET THEM PROMPTLY AT THE USUAL PLACES.

---

WANTED,

TO RENT

Small house or flat in suburbs, Barton Heights preferred.



## The Glass Matter

---

On Saturday, July 7th, 1906 the first number of The Idea containing five articles concerning Carter Glass appeared in Lynchburg, Va.

On Sunday, July 15th, a notice appeared in Glass' paper, The News, saying that Mr. Glass through six attorneys had on the day before instituted suit against the Bell Co. for \$25,000 damages, for publishing a "pamphlet making scurrulous references to Mr. Glass and to other well known citizens."

Two days later, on July 17th, we wrote Mr. Glass retracting one of the five articles because in that one we had called Mr. Glass a member of, while he was only clerk of the city council.

On the same day, the 17th, Mr. J. P. Bell writing for the Bell Co. wrote an article to Mr. Glass stating: "We did not sell the pamphlet or put it in circulation, and the responsibility for its circulation rests solely with its author, whose identity is well known."

On the 20th Mr. Glass wrote to the editor of The Idea: "The statement you retract is not by any means the only or the most offensive one."

On the 24th the editor replied: "I have nothing further to retract," thus reiterating the truth of the articles referred to.

On Aug. 26th, one month later, The News printed a letter from the Bell Co. of Aug. 23rd saying: "We regret our connection with the pamphlet and disclaim any share in or responsibility for the things stated or sentiments expressed therein" and that The Idea was "printed for the author, as any matter brought to our house is printed, in the usual course of business and the management had no knowledge of its contents."

It is thus seen that the Bell Company did not make any apology for any wrong done but simply explained to Mr. Glass that they had done nothing to apologize for. Therefore the editor was right when he said on the stand that he thought that the Bell Co. had not apologized and Mr. Glass' letter of the next day, the 24th, shows that no apology had been made, for if he regarded it as an apology he surely would not have written, as he did in his reply to Mr. Bell: "I accept your EXPLANATION and expression of regret."

In the same paper, (News, Aug. 26th) Mr. Glass states that my letter withdrawing one of the statements made was refused publication in his paper on the grounds that the withdrawal of but one of many statements amounted merely to a reiteration of the rest.

It will therefore be easily seen that neither Mr. Bell nor the editor has acknowledged the falsity of, nor acknowledged any wrong in printing or publishing what Mr. Glass termed, "The most offensive" statements concerning him. And the editor was exactly right in stating on the witness stand that he believed Mr. Glass dropped the suit because the editor would prove the truth of his statements.

In this connection have you noticed that neither The Leader nor the Times-Dispatch nor The Journal has yet published my letter to Mr. Glass stating I would not retract the most offensive statements concerning Mr. Glass, altho each of them published the other two letters, thus deliberately putting the editor of The Idea in a false light before the people.

The Virginian alone finally published this third letter.

It was read in court when the first two were read.

---

## Messenger Boys in Temptation

---

In our legalized red light district messenger boys in short pants may be seen both day and night with telegrams and written messages for the women of the midnight world.

You know the men who patronize these places do not like to send their own messengers for fear of detection, so they get a telegraph messenger. Thus are our boys brought into contact with the most horrible aspects of sin and the influences which at their age are most sure to blight and destroy their morals. And the police know all about it, but what can they do? They have instructions not to enforce the law from the men who give them their jobs, the police board.

## “To Jail for Telling the Truth”

---

While in the city jail the editor received the following letter which so affected him that it is deemed worthy of publication.

Among the many messages of cheer which made our confinement easy to bear none was so valued as this.

When one has the unsolicited confidence of children—and the editor has always numbered the children among his intimate friends,—he cannot be far wrong.

1837 Carrington St., Richmond, Va. Feb. 17, 1910.  
Mr. Adon A. Yoder:

I am a little boy of ten and I know you will wonder why I am writing to you, but I just want to let you know that some of the school boys are thinking of you. I've read your papers, also your trial in the newspapers and I must say they haven't given you a fair trial by any means. I have been talking this over with my little comrades and they all agree that you haven't had a fair deal, and I've wondered why some of the good and fair minded men of this town haven't come to your aid. When I read Mr. Smith's speech where he called you so many bad, ugly names it made me boil, for I knew you did not deserve it, and I wondered when he knelt at his bedside that night if he didn't ask God to forgive him for calling his fellow man such dirty names when he did not deserve it.

But Mr. Yoder, it don't hurt a man to be sent to jail for telling the truth, it will only serve to increase your business.

Now Mr. Yoder, I will close, hoping God will be with you and direct you in all your undertakings, and prosper you in your business which I believe He will.

I am your little school boy friend,

L. J. B.

P. S. I am at home now on the sick list but hope to be all right soon, then I will write you again. You can print my letter if you want to, to let the grown up men know what a school boy thinks of the way an honest man has been treated. Mr. Yoder, I am going to send you some stamps as I don't reckon those mean men that put you in jail gave you any.

L.

### The Times-Dispatch Maligns McAlister Again

On last Sunday Rev. J. D. McAlister, Sec'y. of the State Anti-Saloon League delivered an address at the East End Baptist Church. On Monday morning The Times-Dispatch in a false account of that meeting said:

Pursuing this argument as to revenue, Mr. McAlister said: "Twenty-six Senators sat in their chamber in the State Capitol on Friday evening and said to the 35,000 petitioners, 'We recognize no right on your part to a vote. We will keep this thing that pays heavy license and that pays our campaign expenses.'"

In Monday evening's Virginian Mr. McAlister denounced as false that statement in these words:

"I did not say that twenty-six senators sat in their chamber in the State Capitol on Friday evening and said to the 35,000 petitioners 'We recognize no right on your part to a vote. We will keep this thing that pays heavy licenses and pays our campaign expenses.' I did say that twenty-six senators by their votes denied 35,000 petitioners the privilege of voting on the abolition of the saloon—a most fertile source of revenue.

In the meantime two senators got up in the senate and being misled by this false report of the Times-Dispatch, Mr. Keezell said, "IF CORRECTLY QUOTED I regard the statement (above quoted) as an unwarranted insult and falsehood." (Words in parentheses are ours.—Ed.)

In view of the statement of Mr. McAlister any one can see that this trouble in the senate was caused, not by what Mr. McAlister said, but by the false report put out by the Times-Dispatch.

To add insult on insult the Times-Dispatch the next day ignored Mr. McAlister's denial of their false charge and reiterated the statement about him in spite of that denial. Thus the Times-Dispatch of Tuesday said:

Mr. McAlister had also said, in referring to the Senators who voted against the Strode measure, that they had denied to the 35,000 petitioners the right to vote, and had said they would 'keep this thing which makes revenue and which pays our campaign expenses.'

This base slander against Mr. McAlister is in keeping with the policy of that base whiskey paper for this same SUPREME gave a false report of this same preacher's remarks last summer at Grove Ave. Baptist Church and the pastor and board of deacons publicly denounced the Times-Dispatch article as absolutely false.



## Richmond Girls in Whiskey Shops

Not long since, the writer was walking down Main street at the morning office opening hour when he noticed a neatly dressed young woman come out from the postoffice and proceed in front of him down Main street.

After walking a few blocks the girl crossed the street and entered, to our amazement, what appeared to be a bar room, for both windows were filled with bottled whiskeys and wines and within the room could be seen row after row of whiskey barrels and the other paraphernalia of a large whiskey house. The writer stopped and waited, wondering on what mission a young lady entered such a place.

The girl after a greeting to two men within passed on to the rear while we waited and wondered.

As we waited two other young women appeared and entered the same place and as neither they nor the first one came out, our curiosity the better of us, so we inquired and found that the concern operated a large mail order business and these Richmond young women were engaged in selling whiskey by mail.

We went on our way, saddened in heart to think that this tremendous evil had gotten so respectable, because by our votes we make it legal, that our girls have gone to selling whiskey and our great daily papers make no protest.

Surely the time has come to banish the business when our women have become so contaminated by it.

Before coming to Richmond, we were talking with a prominent Richmond business man on the question of the liquor business and he stated that he had had no protest to make against the saloon business and its consequences, but that he thought that it was only a question of time when the men of Virginia would put it away forever because of its evil effect on their women.

He said that he had noticed that in the social life of Richmond the drinking of strong drink by the women was becoming alarmingly prevalent and that the awful feature of it to him was that the women who took it seemed to lose their regard for their virtue, and that he thought that the men of Virginia would banish the liquor evil because of their chivalrous regard for their women and in defense of their homes.

No comment necessary, for our readers are not fools.

## Acknowledgment.

Some time ago we received a contribution of \$2.00 by mail from Manchester, we think, to be expended in defence of the editor. When we desired to acknowledge receipt of it, we could not find the letter and since we have not yet been able to locate it, we take this means of expressing thanks and hope that the donor will get hold of this paper. We sincerely thank our unknown friend, and also the one who sent a like amount last Saturday and those who have sent such contributions to the cause in the past in anonymous letters and by anonymous messengers.

## Thanks.

We desire to publicly thank those friends of the cause who of their own volition raised \$71.25 which they handed over to the editor to pay the fine and costs in the recent trial.

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## WEEKLY PRICE LIST

R. L. PARKER

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C. N. PARKER

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Richmond, Va.

Gold Medal Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	Winner Condensed Milk, per can . . . . .	11
Obelisk Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	3 Large Cans Uncle Ned Tomatoes . . . . .	28
Dunlop Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	6 Bars Octagon Soap . . . . .	25
Clover Leaf Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	Good Mackerel . . . . .	05
Arbuckle Coffee, per lb. . . . .	17	Large Irish Potatoes, per peck . . . . .	25
Church-Hill Pride Coffee, per lb. . . . .	17	Old Virginia Herring Roe, per can . . . . .	10
PURITY BUTTERINE, per lb. . . . .	23	Smoked Shoulder, per lb. . . . .	14
Good Lard, per lb. . . . .	15		
Round Beef Steak, per lb. . . . .	15		
Pork Steak, per lb. . . . .	18		

### SPECIAL

A Good Flour at 43c, per bag.

All Goods not mentioned are in line with our low prices.

## Letter to Times-Dispatch

---

On the day (Sunday Feb. 13th.) on which the Times-Dispatch published the dispatch from Lynchburg which appeared to be contradictory to our evidence on the stand of the day before in reference to the Glass suit, we went in person to the Times-Dispatch office and carried them the three letters which passed between Carter Glass and the editor of The Idea so that by publishing them the people might not be deceived into believing that we had made a misstatement. The editor of the Times-Dispatch point blank refused to see us or to accept our letter which would have set this whole matter right. We publish below that letter.

This incident will show that the Times-Dispatch is not only unfair but deliberately and willfully determined to damage us all they can. If it had not been for the deliberate unfairness of that paper we are persuaded that altho the editor was too sick to defend himself still there would have been such a demand in the air for fair play that the verdict of the jury would have been different. Every one knows that no jury under the sun can fail to be influenced by the publications in the papers which create the atmosphere by which they unconsciously determine their verdict.

It is reasonable to suppose that when our best friends were deceived, as they afterwards acknowledged, the jury should also be deceived.

The Times-Dispatch has not, up to this day published these three letters. They prefer to have the people deceived, for only by deceiving them can they help kill The Idea.

Richmond, Va., Febr'y. 13th, 1910.

Editors Times-Dispatch.

City.

Dear Sirs:—

I make below a statement contradicting your dispatch from Lynchburg in this morning's paper, which I trust you will be fair enough to publish as you did that base misrepresentation in bold type on your first page. Your paper says in quoting the dispatch from Lynchburg "Yoder himself under date of July 17th, 1906 in a letter to Mr. Glass confessed the falsity of his charge."

As a matter of fact I did not retract the charges made against Mr. Glass, but I stated to him in the letter of July 17th that I had made an error in my paper in calling him a member of the Council while I should have said Clerk of the Council. Neither he or I regarded this as a retraction of the charges, and he wrote me on July 20th that if I would make such a retraction as he indicated it would be published in the "News". This of course I declined to do in a letter to him dated July 24th, 1906, and Mr. Glass did not dare publish my letters, though I published all the correspondence, and the reason he did not publish them was because I did not admit the falsity of my charges, although your reported dispatch from the Advance of Lynchburg says I did. I enclose herewith the three letters, which passed between us.

Yours respectfully,

ADON A. YODER.

---

## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure. Phone Monroe 2708,



## The Malicious Times-Dispatch

To show how maliciously unfair a paper The Times Dispatch is, we print the following. That paper, supreme in its hatred for The Idea, grabbed at the opportunity to hurt the editor in his recent trial by publishing Mr. Scherer's repudiation of the editor on the morning of the last day of the trial when it was calculated to have great weight with the jury.

A few days later, however, when Mr. Scherer found he had been misled into censuring us and desired to set himself right with the people by making a public acknowledgment of his error, this same paper, the Times-Dispatch, failed to print his letter of retraction. In the light of this failure to be fair perhaps the people can understand why that paper printed such false reports of that trial.

You not only get a one-sided report from the self-styled Supreme but one is easily persuaded that the Supreme is maliciously false and one-sided when it will noticeably fail to correct a wrong and exceedingly damaging and harmful report when the one who had given the original information wished to make a proper correction.

To an outsider the Times-Dispatch sometimes appears to be a fair minded paper but to Richmonders the truth is apparent that the Supreme is the greatest enemy to moral reform that the forces of right have to encounter in their contests with evil.

Former ardent admirers of the beloved Joseph Bryan daily acknowledge that the paper has woefully degenerated under the management of his sons, whose ideals, if they have any, are, as far as their paper shows them, so different from those of their father.

Knowing from experience what a biased paper the Supreme is, we predict that Major Hemphill, the new editor, will not long remain with it, for if he is the man he appears to be from what the papers say about him, he must have some opinions of his own and such a one cannot be led about long by the narrow minded and unfair policy of the Bryan boys.

## "FOR MEN ONLY"

We wish to announce to our many customers that we are now located in our store at No. 618 East Main St., and are fully equipped to put your OLD DULL SAFETY RAZOR BLADES in perfect condition, "while you wait" for 30c. per dozen. We also GRIND RAZORS, SCISSORS, CARVING AND POCKET KNIVES, and any kind of a sharp edge tool, and we absolutely guarantee our work to please you in every respect. Give us a trial and we will prove to you and convince you that we are experts in this line of work.

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Razors Honed And Set 15c. Each.  
Mail Orders Will Receive Prompt Attention.

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**THE "SHARP-O" CO.**

618 EAST MAIN STREET.

# A. H. EWING

**CEMENT PAVING  
CONTRACTOR**



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RICHMOND, VA.

Estimates cheerfully given on Sidewalk  
Paving, Halls, Vestibules, Basements, &c.

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The Editor has known Mr. Ewing personally for the last twenty years, and he takes pleasure in stating that his reputation for first-class work and straight forward, satisfactory dealing is unexcelled.

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PROMPT SERVICE.

POLITE ATTENTION.

TELEPHONE 738.

# JOHN W. GOODE

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FRESH MEATS, VEGETABLES, CANNED GOODS,  
FRUITS, TOBACCO, CIGARS, Etc.

2520 E. BROAD ST., - - - RICHMOND, VA.

## P R I Z E S

### FOR BOYS

**"THE IDEA" WILL GIVE PRIZES TO**  
Newsboy who get the greatest number of weekly subscribers and  
other prizes to those who sell the most copies.

The Contest will begin with the 1st of December and boys desiring to compete should begin today to work for their weekly subscriptions.

Boys should leave their names at the time of getting their papers so that we may keep an accurate record of their sales.

Some time ago THE IDEA gave away a Watch and nine other valuable prizes, and the winning boys did good work. One boy selling 112 copies of THE IDEA of one issue. There is good money in it for the boys besides the prizes.

WEEKLY

5c

THE COPY

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# THE IDEA

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A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

March 19 1910

No. 12

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AN ADDRESS TO

## Richmond Mothers

ON A

## Burning Question

In which Some Plain Things Are  
Said in a Way Not to Offend.=====

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FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

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BEING SOME SERMONETTES PUBLISHED WEEKLY FOR THE  
COMMON GOOD AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, By ADON A,  
YODER, EDITOR, PUBLISHER AND PRINTER 904  
CAPITOL STREET, RICHMOND, VA.



# Prizes for Boys--February-March Contest

Ten prizes will be given to the ten boys selling the greatest number of IDEAS in February and March. Prizes were recently given out for the December-January contest. A handsome fountain pen was the first prize, and first quality stag handle pocket knives were given to the nine boys selling the nine next largest numbers. One boy sold 491 copies in the two months.

Selling IDEAS pays the boys well even if they do not secure the first prize.

JEWELER

**J. S. JAMES**

OPTICIAN

7th AND MAIN STS.

We have in our Fall Stock, and are  
showing special good values in

**DIAMONDS, WATCHES, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, CUT GLASS, Etc.**

We invite your inspection

For Chapped hands and Lips and Rough Skin use Soothing Balm.

For dry or falling Hair, Dandruff and diseased Scalp, use  
Regal Hair Tonic.

For troublesome Coughs use Phlorizine.

For Dyspepsia and Indigestion, use Copodone Liver Pills.

For Pimples and Skin Eruptions, use Aromatic Tonic Bitters  
and Iodide Sarsaparilla.

For the Best Medicines extant, Go to

**A. H. ROBINS,**  
200 E. MARSHALL ST.

More than 50 Years Experience.

# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

MARCH 19, 1910

No. 12

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## AN ADDRESS TO RICHMOND MOTHERS ON A

# Burning Question

In which Some Plain Things Are Said  
In a Way Not To Offend.

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**T**HE IDEA makes no apology for placing this discussion of a very delicate subject before the mothers of Richmond and community.

We do have apologies to offer because of conditions which make such discussion necessary.

We are well aware of the fact that there are lots of good people, who because of a mistaken sense of modesty, will

(Continued on page 4)

# Prominent Richmonder Expresses Confidence Which "Grows as Circumstances Develop"

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From among the many expressions of confidence in the editor we have selected the following clipping from a very prominent merchant, who, besides his letters, has given more substantial help in our hours of trouble.

There are none that can realize ALL that is conveyed in that last paragraph.

The editor's private family affairs are not the proper subject of detailed discussion in these pages, and yet if one has any imagination and can stop and think what it might mean in sacrifice to have to make a frail wife and children suffer with him, and perhaps more than he, the heavy burdens which have been his lot, then surely one cannot say that the editor of The Idea is moved by base motives.

Mr. A. A. Yoder,  
City.

Dear Sir:

I am certainly gratified to know that a boy ten years old can see deeper and further into the real value of truth than the average business man or citizen of Richmond appears to appreciate. You have had my most hearty sympathy in all of your trials, and you would have received much more substantial support had I been in position to render such.

I feel especially for you in your family affliction, as from what I can learn and hear from RELIABLE SOURCES this is a far greater burden to you than all the mountains of slander that could be heaped upon you by the combined forces of mammon. So you see there is one at least who has not lost confidence, but it rather grows in strength as circumstances develop.

## Harry Smith

?

During the trial of the editor for libel, recently, lawyer Harry Smith desiring to prejudice the jury against us by imputations stated that he would show that the letters Mr. Ledman wrote to the mayor, and which were published in The Idea, concerning lack of law enforcement on his part were written by the editor, and that "this man Yoder is going about instigating the citizen to censure the mayor" and that Mr. Ledman in this case wrote to the mayor, not of his own accord, but was put up to it by Yoder to make news matter for his paper. Since the judge ruled out any testimony by us along this line we did not have the opportunity of telling the jury what we now state to the public that not only did Mr. Ledman undertake this correspondence of his own free will and accord, but that the editor of this paper knew nothing whatever about it until Mr. Ledman had been summoned to appear in court against a law violator after the correspondence had begun and after Mr. Ledman had communicated with both the mayor and the chief of police.

This is but one Harry Smith's many attempts to damage the editor by such imputations.

He was guilty of a like unmanly act when he attempted to mislead both the editor and the jury by asking the editor whom he meant in a certain sentence quoted from The Idea and the editor happened to remember that the line in question was not his but a line from an article in the Review of Reviews, referring to some man up in New York state, and Harry Smith tried to lead the jury into believing that we wrote that about Justice John, altho if he had dared to read the whole article out when he asked the question the jury would have seen his purpose.

This is the kind of stuff we had to fight, and not being used to such methods and not having lawyers who would adopt such methods, we being physically exhausted and played out, were unable to defend against them.



## THE IDEA

### An Address to Richmond mothers

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(Continued from first page)

throw this issue of THE IDEA into the fire—where doubtless many issues have gone before—and with a “more holy than thou” air will take a solemn oath that the dirty sheet shall never come into their home again. But, you know, we are used to this sort of thing and take it for granted. We have long since come to the conclusion that a man must make a sort of nuisance of himself to lots of people in order to accomplish results along certain moral lines.

We have come to as equally definite conclusion that there is a demand for the airing before the public of certain great moral questions which are usually avoided in the public prints.

At the outset we wish to pay our respects once more to the daily press. They would no more think of taking up such a discussion as this in their columns than they would think of handling fire with ungloved palm. But listen:

They take up every bit of scandal and parade it before the public in glaring headlines.

If there is a divorce proceeding in the courts where those of so-called high society are involved they will send into your homes the miserable details of the disgusting performances of some faithless wife or fickle husband.

They go just as far as the law will allow them in picturing the details of the adventures of a tawdry chorus girl of the Evelyn Thaw stripe and in so doing set a-going in the mind of many an innocent child a desire for the big world of gaiety and adventure---a desire which leads inevitably to untold horrors for some of your own daughters who, foolish and ignorant, fall the victims of such unprincipled criminals as Stanford White.

These same newspapers which pose as moulders of public thought come into your homes almost daily flaunting before your children the picture of some millionaire's daughter who has eloped with a chauffeur or a hotel waiter, and your boys

and girls are told in big headlines and glowing articles of how these two wretches have been running around the country as man and wife; and the spice of adventure is run in and exaggerated until the wayward child is made into a sort of heroine whose story will always find a sympathetic heart in some one of the innocent children of your own household who will be led unconsciously to an imitation of the wayward adventuress.

These same nice newspapers jump at an opportunity to drag some young girl of your own community into big headlines and by gross exaggerations and unwarranted and contemptible insinuations bring both the child and her distressed parents into humiliation before the public.

So it is with cases of assault, with trials for breach of promise, and in a thousand and one other ways, every sense of refinement and modesty is outraged by the daily press—under the guise of giving the people the news, or, forsooth, of publishing the details of crime in order to deter others from crime. But with the guise stripped off it is a mean catering to a public taste that has been largely perverted by these very papers in a desire for that kind of sensationalism which will increase their circulation and ultimately their advertising patronage.

Yet these are the papers that throw up their holy hands in holy horror if any one attempts to go into print with a direct and pointed discussion of a question which is fraught with more far-reaching dangers to our homes and to society than any other question of the day.

Perhaps in our zeal for what we believe in from the bottom of our heart we have made mistakes. We have certainly been made to suffer sufficiently for those mistakes in persecution and insults and mortification to which we and our family have been subjected.

Nothing but a profound sense of duty could persuade us to continue this fight. That there are miserable wrongs being perpetrated daily by unfair and unholy social and political conditions presses upon us with an overwhelming conviction. Whether or not we will be able to right these wrongs is not

the question for any man but the coward. We shall "fight the good fight" whether victory or defeat shall be our portion.

Going now more directly to the root of the matter we wish to say in terms that no man need misunderstand that the

**EXISTENCE OF A DIFFERENT STANDARD OF MORALS FOR THE SEXES IS A DOWNRIGHT OUTRAGE OF THE WORST SORT.**

We say further that the evils which result from this different standard of morals are fraught with deadly dangers to our homes and to society.

It is high time some voice were raised in protest against this deadly and outrageous and cowardly system of morals. Our voice may be ever so feeble but it shall be raised---and those holy, holy men, many of whom---shall we say most of whom---are themselves the guiltiest of the guilty may relegate us to realms of the damned at their liking.

We have been made tired---oh, so abundantly and nauseatingly tired---of all this balderdash about "manliness" and "chivalry" and the "unwritten law" on the part of men who pose as the protectors of their own mother, daughters or sisters when the vast majority of them are themselves as fiendishly guilty as Satan in their outrages upon other men's daughters and sisters who have no protectors. We make no distinction here between the wretch who knocks the tender fruit from the tree and the thrice wretched coward who feeds his lust upon the bruised fruit that has fallen. Some man must be the original criminal in the first place and every subsequent party to the crime is equally guilty.

And yet these are some of the "chivalrous" gentlemen who object to having these matters aired---when as God is our witness our sole motive is to air them for the public good and for the protection of our own little ones who are just as dear to us as your children are to you.

Once more we say that it is cowardly, unfair and unmanly for a man to set up and maintain one standard of morals for himself and insist upon a different standard for those of the opposite sex.



It is the height of unmanliness and injustice for the man of impure habits and unclean life to insist upon foisting himself upon society and at the same time insist upon driving from society those of the opposite sex who have fallen victims to the miserable machinations of this man or some other of his kind.

Would we lower the standard now demanded of our womanhood? By no means, but we say that the very conditions against which we are protesting are inevitably lowering that standard, and herein lies our danger.

Turn loose a race of men of debased tastes and perverted morals upon society and the inevitable result will be the tearing down of the very bulwark of the state, of society and of the home---the exalted sweetness and purity of our girlhood and womanhood.

We would in no sense lower the standard for our womanhood---we would rather raise it yet higher---but we would so put the mark upon every male moral delinquent that his downfall would be just as complete and his disgrace just as pronounced as is now that of his hapless victim.

We would say to the man: What you demand of that sweet, innocent girl whose hand you seek in marriage she shall have the right to demand of you.

We believe our divine Creator so constituted us as to make this the only right and fair standard, and it is sheer effrontery for any fair minded and manly man to deny it.

We make this broad statement to those mothers who have sons and daughters just blooming into the beauty and sweetness of the young life---not one of those children whom you love as your own life is safe in the present condition of society. We know that there are many good women who, in their own innocence, will indignantly deny this statement and this imputation of wholesale moral delinquency on the part of the men of the community. But we make it with a profound conviction that it is amply justified by our knowledge of facts and conditions.

Next week we will continue this discussion and ask at least your careful reading and fair consideration.



## Will Eat Up The Journal, If---

---

Letter concerning the industrial war in Philadelphia in which some questions are put to The Evening Journal.

Abingdon, Va., 3-12-10.

Editor The Idea:---

Apropos the Strike Situation in Phila., I want to put some questions to The Richmond Evening Journal, that friend of Union labor who sings the "identity-of-interest" refrain and counsels its readers to "Vote her straight" for the Democrat Machine at all elections: Why have there never been any laws enacted to enable labor to get a living wage without being compelled to "Strike" for it?

Then when compelled to strike in order to secure living wages and conditions, why is it that the entire machinery of the law is always available to CAPITAL in defeating the strike; the custodians of the law being lined up solid for capital and bristling with enmity toward labor?

Why are the "friends" of labor, who have been elected, largely by the labor vote, either as "Democrats" or "Republicans", always found to be the active partisans of capital in trampling their labor constituents into submission in time of strikes?

How can a news-paper honestly advocate the theory of "identity of interest of capital and labor" and advise its "labor" readers to vote a Democratic or a Republican ticket at elections, seeing that the minions of these parties are always the puppets and partisans of capital; ready, when elected, to use their office and legal powers to crush these poor, innocent trusting souls who so guilelessly voted them into office?

If the "Journal" can answer these questions satisfactorily I will agree to eat the entire edition.

Very truly,

B. M. DUTTON.

Don't fool yourself into thinking that you can kill an idea anyhow.

Truth and right can not die. They some how have life in themselves.

Lies and error alone die. They some how or other kill themselves.

Another thing about the truth is this, that it does not care about results. It can wait for them for it knows that Truth is immortal and will live in spite of hell itself, and that wrong and error and falsity are kin to death and cannot live, for they have no immortal part. Their's is to cease to be.

It should be your concern to see that you are not deceived by error and wrong. For their work is simply to DECEIVE mortal men so that they may not accept the truth and take on immortality. When you know the truth, "The truth shall make you free," free from the bondage of sin,—free from the law of death. "Turn ye, Turn ye, for why will ye die?"

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And The Idea is not dead yet.

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## Letter From Danville.

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Danville, Va.,

March 12, 1910

Adon A. Yoder, Esq.

904 Capitol St.,

Richmond, Va.

Dear Yoder:—

It gives me pleasure to see that you are pressing forward with your "Idea" and have not succumbed to the adverse forces trying to press you to the wall—You have my best wishes and if you get in a very tight place and want (\$5.) five dollars to keep the paper going—let me hear from you.

Yours truly

W. M.

## The Idea Sued Again

---

On last Tuesday both commissioners Manning and Gordon entered suit against the editor and the Williams Printing Company for \$10,000 damages each.

Thus it can easily be seen that these men simply want to destroy The Idea by legal fees.

If they were simply after vindication, whatever that may mean to them, they would be satisfied with the criminal case. But no, the order has gone forth that The Idea must be destroyed by suits or otherwise.

But we think we will play them a trick this time. We may just defend ourselves and not waste our money in lawyer's fees when the courts are against us anyhow.

---

## An Appeal to the People

---

The editor begs to apologize to those friends who would have stood by us in carrying the fight to the Supreme Court for accepting the verdict of the Hustings Court in our recent trial.

We did it only because we were too fagged out to decide what to do, and besides it appeared that our friends had deserted us at the time.

We earnestly beg those who care for the future wellbeing of justice in their city to uphold us in our present fight against the ring which is determined to down us. The Saunders suit is yet unsettled, and there are two suits on entered by Manning and Gordon.

If you want to help defeat the bosses and free Richmond from existing evils, now is the time your contribution to the cause can help much. If you are not satisfied with men in

office who use their position to persecute and harrass and arrest and lock-up and sue and fine and jail and assault, then it is time to send your assistance to A. P. Davis, Sec'y., care of Idea office, 904 Capitol St., Richmond, Va.

Do it now for yourself and your children.

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## Money Given Away

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### Prizes for Boys. Four Different Contests.

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On last Saturday The Idea gave away prizes to the twelve boys selling the largest number of Ideas in the December-January prize contest. Only ten prizes were offered but so many of the boys did well that twelve were given away.

The first prize, a handsome fountain pen, was won by Joseph Anderson.

The eleven additional prizes were first quality two blade pocket knives.

The February-March contest will be up with next Saturday's sales, tho it will probably be two weeks later before all the returns are in and counted.

Besides these bi-monthly prizes a friend of The Idea's has offered to give away 5 one dollar bills to the five boys selling the largest number of Ideas today, March 19th.

If you can't stick to it long enough to get a two month's prize, why not get busy today and earn a dollar or two besides an extra dollar.

### HERE'S YOUR CHANCE, BOYS

Next month, April, The Idea will give away in addition to the regular two-monthly prizes a suitable prize to every boy who sells as many as twenty copies of The Idea in each of the five Saturdays in that month. By this means you can get a prize even if the other fellow does beat you selling. All you have got to do is to sell twenty Ideas each Saturday in April.



## The Hard-Up Prosecution of The Idea

---

The attorneys for the prosecution against the editor of this paper stated to the jury that we had libelled even the judges of the Supreme Court of the United States.

We knew it was false but we did not know what could even have suggested such a slander against us until it developed that they referred to a letter addressed to The Idea by a former candidate for the position of State Supt. of Education and published in The Idea in which the writer of the letter had criticized the Supreme Court for a certain rank and unjust decision.

In the first place, the criticism was not a libel.

In the second place, it was not ours but was vouched for by one whose name was duly signed to the article.

In the third place, judges are not only not above criticism, but are more the subject for criticism than others, both because of their powers and responsibility and because of the mess of a fix in which our laws are that makes it possible for a judge who goes wrong to do such permanent hurt to the people.

This paper is not concerned with the errors and sins of private individuals, but the higher up the public official, the more careful will The Idea be to examine into and criticize just as severely as we feel the occasion may warrant, and because judges have so great power, The Idea will jump them quicker and more harshly than others.

They, above all, should be just and true and when they are not just and true The Idea will be after them in spite of little 2 x 4 "defenders of the courts" with their exaggerated notions of "dignity of office."

There should be no such thing as "DIGNITY OF OFFICE" which would keep the people from criticising those who go wrong, but there should be such a regard for the DIGNITY OF ACTUAL PUBLIC SERVICE that public servants would be above going wrong.

Away with this absurd pride of office and give us more pride of justice.

# The Very Idea

If you don't like The Idea, read the profane "I Swear" or the Spineless Supreme or the decadent and indecent evening sheet owned by the Supreme.

They are all in the same boat.

The first, we understand, has already died after living for eight days on its ability to extract money under false pretences. The third, we understand, is on its last legs and the second is so mad at its prospects of losing revenue by the advent of a rival which is exposing its sins to the public that it has so fallen into all manner of vile abuse and pernicious teaching to save its own hide that it is unfit to be read.

If you want to know what is really going on but which the other papers think they cannot afford to print for fear of offending their advertisers and some of their friends in office then you get The Idea, the livest paper in the state.

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## WEEKLY PRICE LIST

R. L. PARKER

Phone Madison 4935-J

C. N. PARKER

GET IT AT

## PARKE BROTHERS GROCERIES

520 N. 26th Street

Richmond, Va.

Gold Medal Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	Winner Condensed Milk, per can . .	11
Obelisk Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	3 Large Cans Uncle Ned Tomatoes . .	28
Dunlop Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	6 Bars Octagon Soap . . . . .	25
Clover Leaf Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	Good Mackerel . . . . .	05
Arbuckle Coffee, per lb. . . . .	17	Large Irish Potatoes, per peck . . .	25
Church-Hill Pride Coffee, per lb. . .	17	Old Virginia Herring Roe, per can .	10
PURITY BUTTERINE, per lb. . . . .	23	Smoked Shoulder, per lb. . . . .	14
Good Lard, per lb. . . . .	15	SPECIAL	
Round Beef Steak, per lb. . . . .	15		
Pork Steak, per lb. . . . .	18	A Good Flour at 43c. per bag.	

All Goods not mentioned are in line with our low prices.

# LIBEL

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If The Times-Dispatch is so evilly inclined as to basely misrepresent the Rev. J. D. McAlister, State Sec'y of the Anti-Saloon League, as they continue to do by publishing absolutely false reports of his utterances and that too when they have so many readers who are in sympathy with the League and who must censure them for their unfairness and be driven away from that paper by this means. it can easily be understood why this same Supreme(?) will be ten times as false in its reports of the trial of the editor who had exposed the unfairness and falsity of this supreme on many occasions and who had consequently gained the intensest enmity and ill-will of this self-exalted, misrepresentative sheet, the foe of all things good when it costs a sue to stand for the right.

The Times-Dispatch seemed to take a peculiar delight in making the people believe that the editor had said exactly opposite to what he did say, and in making evidence, which if correctly reported would have helped him, by manipulation and distortion damn him and hold him up to scorn.

The editor of this paper knows nothing so outrageous and contemptably mean as to poison the minds of a man's friends against him by base lies and slanders, especially when the one so outraged because of lack of funds to defend himself is practically at the mercy of his more powerful enemy.

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## Advertisers in Idea, Get Results

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Advertisers in The Idea tell us that they find this paper the best advertising medium they have ever tackled.

You see its this way: we don't employ an advertising man and don't have time to solicit ads; therefore we don't have very many advertisements. As a result the readers read all our ads there being only about five pages of ads in each number.

Write today for rates or call Monroe 2708.

## A PRIZE

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### Find the Innocent

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We dont claim to be without error, and yet will give a prize to the man or woman, boy or girl, infant or aged, bond or free, black, white or yellow, sane or insane, high or low, rich or poor, good, bad or indifferent, or any body or any thing else in creation that will find one innocent person that The Idea has criticized.

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Why we haven't done anything but hit a few of the biggest rascals yet. When we get after the lesser lights and the smaller fry there may be some grounds for a difference of opinion. But you'd better wait for that before you decide that this paper has done anything wrong.

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If this paper hits you, don't get mad. It's a heap cheaper to get right, and then you'll feel so much better when you come down to die. And remember that whether The Idea gets you or not, there's one thing that will get you, and that's cold, scrawny fingered Death. Better get right.

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## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure, 'Phone Monroe 2708,

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**WANTED,**  
**TO RENT** Small house or flat in suburbs, Barton Heights preferred.



## The Times-Dispatch, Like the Devil, Quotes Scripture

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Not content with using their news columns to hurt the cause of the good people of Virginia who are fighting for the preservation of the home and the happiness and comfort and financial welfare of all the citizens of the state by banishing this expensive and nefarious evil from the state,—not content with this method, The Times-Dispatch of recent date, Tuesday, March 8th, fights the cause of the whiskeyites in its editorial columns by using the method of the Devil of old in tempting the Master, in using scripture to make an argument for evil against McAlister.

Just think of it, a paper with the reputation of the Times-Dispatch quoting the Bible against a minister of the gospel because he is engaged in the greatest and most practical work any church has ever dared to undertake.

So long as the preachers preach beautiful theories the Times-Dispatch says, "Amen," but just as soon as a preacher follows the Master, who "went about doing good" the "holier-than-thou" Supreme in Virginia begins to quote scripture in the interest of the saloon.

The religion that does not interfere with the sins of the world but is simply a matter of theory, seems to be all that the Times-Dispatch dares sanction.

The Devil fought God by quoting scripture to Jesus.

The Times-Dispatch fights the good by quoting scripture to McAlister.

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## Street Car Accident

Mrs. S. I. Llewellyn was thrown from a street car on Main street, the 19th of August last. Will the lady who spoke to her just before she fell send address, also anyone who saw the accident. It will be remembered that she held on to the handlebar and ran along for several feet before falling. Address S. I. LLEWELLYN, Richmond, Va., R. F. D. No. 3, Box 100.

## **"FOR MEN ONLY"**

---

We wish to announce to our many customers that we are now located in our store at No. 618 East Main St., and are fully equipped to put your OLD DULL SAFETY RAZOR BLADES in perfect condition, "while you wait" for 30c. per dozen. We also GRIND RAZORS, SCISSORS, CARVING AND POCKET KNIVES, and any kind of a sharp edge tool, and we absolutely guarantee our work to please you in every respect. Give us a trial and we will prove to you and convince you that we are experts in this line of work.

---

Razors Honed And Set 15c. Each.

Mail Orders Will Receive Prompt Attention.

---

**THE "SHARP-O" CO.**

618 EAST MAIN STREET.

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# **A. H. EWING**

**CEMENT PAVING  
CONTRACTOR**



**62 NORTH LOMBARDY STREET**

**PHONE 1621**

**RICHMOND, VA.**

Estimates cheerfully given on Sidewalk  
Paving, Halls, Vestibules, Basements, &c.

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The Editor has known Mr. Ewing personally for the last twenty years, and he takes pleasure in stating that his reputation for first-class work and straight forward, satisfactory dealing is unexcelled.

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PROMPT SERVICE.

POLITE ATTENTION.

TELEPHONE 738.

# JOHN W. GOODE

(Formerly with G. Watt Taylor)

- - - FANCY AND STAPLE GROCERIES, - - -  
FRESH MEATS, VEGETABLES, CANNED GOODS,  
FRUITS, TOBACCO, CIGARS, Etc.

2520 E. BROAD ST., - - - RICHMOND, VA.

# LOOK BOYS!



## MANY PRIZES

Be sure and read the article in this number on prizes for

SELLING IDEAS

## EVERY BOY CAN WIN

Free Automobile Ride to the Five Boys selling the largest  
number next week.

WEEKLY **5c** THE COPY

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

March 26, 1910

No. 13

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— — — — —

**More Straightforward  
Talk on Live Matters.**

— — — — —

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FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

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BEING SOME SERMONETTES PUBLISHED WEEKLY FOR THE  
COMMON GOOD AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA. By ADON A.  
YODER, EDITOR, PUBLISHER AND PRINTER 904  
CAPITOL STREET, RICHMOND, VA.



# Prizes for Boys--February-March Contest

Ten prizes will be given to the ten boys selling the greatest number of IDEAS in February and March. Prizes were recently given out for the December-January contest. A handsome fountain pen was the first prize, and first quality stag handle pocket knives were given to the nine boys selling the nine next largest numbers. One boy sold 491 copies in the two months.

Selling IDEAS pays the boys well even if they do not secure the first prize.

JEWELER

J. S. JAMES

OPTICIAN

7th AND MAIN STS.

We have in our Fall Stock, and are  
showing special good values in

DIAMONDS, WATCHES, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, CUT GLASS, Etc.

We invite your inspection

HEADQUARTERS for your sick wants; your family and toilet  
wants, in Drugs and Medicines

Sick Feeders, Bandages, Crutches, Rubber Water Bottles,  
Bags and Sheeting, Douches, Thermometers, Supporters,  
Trusses, Cushions, Toilet Soaps and other requisites, Delicate  
Flavorings and Fine Perfumery Extracts.

- A. H. ROBINS, -  
200 E. MARSHALL ST.

Goods delivered anywhere in the city.

Phone Madison 1388, if busy, Madison 5272.

# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

MARCH 26, 1910

No. 13

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## Councilmen to Be Elected

---

Have you noticed how all live questions die, when the politicians have their way with the papers, just before election time? A daily paper announces that the change in form of city government will be brought up again "after primary."

The Idea will bring it up "before primary."

The papers quote Mr. Cutchins: "I concluded it would be better to wait until after the primary, NOT CARING TO MAKE THE PROPOSITION AN ISSUE IN THE CAMPAIGN."

Now The Idea has this to say: That unless men are elected at this primary who will vote for a better and much more simplified form of city government for Richmond, then Richmond can not hope for any permanent betterment in the near future.

Even if good men are elected to office and the same old outlandish council of 56 men is continued, the evils which beset Richmond today will as naturally beset Richmond in the future and tho three-fourths of the council be good men

still Richmond will have a rotten and expensive government, for it is so easy with the present plan for a few organized crooks to get even good men to do their bidding.

Let this be the issue in the campaign: Do you favor the present worn out and cumbersome and expensive form of government, or do you favor a small council elected at large by all the voters?

The ward system must go, or else Richmond will continue to be dominated by crooks and grafters.

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## Manchester Annexation

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By all means let the people vote against annexation for this great big reason: However good a thing it would be under an economical form of government it can not be successfully denied the greater the city THE GREATER THE PERCENTAGE OF WASTE under a wasteful and corrupt government.

Richmond is politically rotten and altho Manchester may be likewise, still the sum total of corruption would be greater under consolidation because of the larger field for CROOKED WARD POLITICS which is the basis of the evils of our present system. Abolish the ward system: Elect all officers at large: Reduce the number of councilmen to five or six. and then and only then will it be wise to enlarge the bounds of the city.

If the corporation be on a sensible responsible business basis then the larger the unit the greater the efficiency and economy.

If it be extravagant and wasteful then the smaller the unit the less the percentage of waste.

Neither the people of Richmond nor of Manchester can afford to increase the opportunity for the grafter. Don't listen to a newspaper which has opinions BECAUSE IT PAYS, but think for yourselves.

## The Junior Editor of The Idea

---

The other morning as our 5-year old boy awoke he turned over in bed and said: "Papa, you know what I'm going to do when I get (to be) a man?" We answered, "No, Harry? What are you going to do?"

"I'm going to sell Ideas", he said, "I'm going to have an office like you and sell Ideas every week."

"But, Harry," we replied, "suppose they put you in jail, like they did me?"

"I don't care if they do, papa. That don't make any difference, when you have't done any wrong."

Now, this boy had been to see us in jail and had brought comforting words showing that he was proud rather than ashamed that his father dared suffer for the right. And as we talk to boys and young men all over the city we rejoice that they are being awakened and are realizing that it costs to fight for the right and that the evil is well organized and powerfully intrenched, but they are awakening to their duty and will yet, tho the editor of this paper should die today, rescue their government from the hand of the spoiler.

---

Did you ever think of this, that the more this paper is fought against the sooner will Richmond throw off those who are opposed by it?

The greatest enemies the crooks in Richmond have are themselves.

If they did not fight back The Idea's work would not have as early good results.

But when they help the good work by getting mad and telling on themselves, then look out for an early remedy.



# SUNDAY CLOSING

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## FAIR PLAY

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The other day Biancini paid a fine in the Hustings Court for being open on Sunday. The court put him under bond of \$100.00 to keep the peace.

Now altho it has been found that bonds in Richmond don't amount to much and bondsmen are not always held up to their bond, still we believe this will deter the offender for a while.

We wonder though why it is that Bianini alone is put under bond. Why don't Justice John put these other offenders under bond and keep them from continuing to violate the law as they do each Sunday. It is not fair to put Biancini under bond and let a merchant on Broad street three blocks away violate the law every Sunday without even a fine.

The evil newspapers of Richmond are continually talking of blue laws and classing this law just made among the out of date laws and telling the people that a law which does not have public sentiment behind it should not be enforced.

Notice what Gov. Folk of Missouri said about that the other day.

"Laws can be enforced in large cities and towns as well as any place if the officials want them enforced. An official can't get around enforcing the laws on the ground that public sentiment doesn't support the laws. PUBLIC SENTIMENT IS SUPPORTING THE LAW OR THE LAW WOULD BE REPEALED AT THE STATE LEGISLATURE."

The real trouble is that when an official don't want to enforce the law he says public sentiment don't want it enforced altho public sentiment is just the reason the law was made.

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## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure, 'Phone Monroe 2708,

# More Plain Talk

## To Those Having Boys and Girls To Raise in Richmond A Delicate Question Handled in a Straightforward Way ∴ ∴ ∴

Due to the exhausted condition of the editor he has had to have a part of the editorial work done by another. This article is contributed—The editor.

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**C**ONTINUING the discussion commenced in last week's IDEA we wish to take up this week other phases of this social evil question.

That there is such an evil of giant proportions abroad in the land is admitted by all, as we saw last week.

That the existence of this evil is dangerous to the home and to society we also saw.

We discussed at some length last week the attitude of the press on this question and showed that they are responsible in large measure for the aggravation of deplorable conditions.

We wish this week to look more definitely at the causes of the prevailing corruption of society and the home.

The primary cause, as we believe, of the widespread existence of the social evil is the maintenance of wide open houses devoted to the business of prostitution. This is putting the case very frankly and bluntly but it is all that can be made out of it. Certain women of the vilest possible character rent houses in certain quarters of the city. They rent these houses from some of the most prominent people in the community. The owners of this property, some of them,

stand high in social, church and business circles. They rent through the intermediary of real estate concerns, of course, but they rent just the same and in so doing they are held by the law to be criminals and are liable to severe penalty. Say what you please about it these men are parties to the business of prostitution. It is a notorious fact that they reap an enormous harvest from the outrageous rents charged these women.

Listen parents! Who pays these respectable property owners these enormous rents? Is it the woman who runs the place? Where does she get the money? From the poor wayward child who has been ensnared to become an inmate of these places and pays her own blood money to her mistress at an enormous rate. And your boys who when they are out of your sight and you think they are among the right sort of companions are taken to these places and started upon a career of dissipation fraught with awful consequences. And this blood money goes in large part into the pockets of some of your respectable neighbors who own this property.

Part of this money derived from the prostitution of our boys and girls goes into the coffers of the miserable wretches who run these houses, to be spent by them in dissipation or laid up by them in the savings banks. It is a well known fact that some of these women who are engaged in this nefarious traffic have savings accounts up in the thousands of dollars.

Their stock in trade is VIRTUE—the virtue of your boys and girls without respect to age, or position.

These creatures put their names on their doors in bold letters. They send out bright lights and gay music from their houses and their inmates sit in their doors in suggestive garb and manner, by these means advertising their wares.

Each new boy that they can entice from the purity of the mother's home and the mother's bosom they send out as one more emissary to prey upon the daughter of your neighbor and once that daughter is started on the downward way the odds are that she will become one more inmate of the house of prostitution, thereby adding one more source of revenue

to the keeper of the house and to the respectable owner of the house.

Oh, you ask if it is possible that these things are true in this land of churches. "Why do not the authorities pass laws upon this question to protect our children from any such evils."

The legislature of this great commonwealth of Virginia has done that very thing and has pronounced the most severe punishment upon both those who conduct these houses and those who own the property in which they are conducted.

Here is the law in the former case:

"If any person keep a house of ill-fame resorted to for the purpose of prostitution or lewdness, he shall be confined in jail not exceeding one year and fined not exceeding \$200; and in a prosecution for this offence, the general character of such house may be proved."

But do you ask how it is possible for these houses to run so openly in violation of this law for such a nefarious purpose.

Go to the man who has been elected to the highest office in your city and ask him WHY!

Go to those men who have been elected by your councilmen—who themselves are the creatures of your ballots—that body of men called Board of Police Commissioners and ask them WHY!

Go to the man who has been elected by this board as the head of the great police force which is solemnly sworn to protect you and yours and ask him WHY!

Ah, they will tell you that they think it unwise to attempt to enforce this law. That they have gotten together and have decided upon a better plan. They will tell you that it is a public necessity that your boys be debauched and that your neighbor's daughters be the means of that debauchery and that therefore it is best to have these houses wide open where this necessary debauchery can be carried on with great facility.

Oh yes, they will tell you that our representatives in the legislative halls made these laws but "we think it better not to try to enforce them." This thing has always existed and

(Continued on page 11)



# Police Board.

## At It Again.

---

THE IDEA has all along charged that the Police Department was exerting a corrupt and undue influence over the administration of justice in Richmond by forbidding the police force doing their duty by instructing them not to enforce the laws which they had sworn to enforce.

This is the case with the house-of-ill-fame evil; This is the case with the Sunday-closing-laws; This is the case, it now develops, with the auto-speeding-law.

In the police court on Friday of last week, it developed that certain Police Commissioners had instructed the police and it was the understanding among autoists that the law against speeding should be ignored, even to the letting of autoists run at almost twice the legal speed limit.

And these Police Commissioners appeared in the police court and not only spoke for the violators of the law but requested Justice John to dismiss the offenders.

Now the point is this, that Justice John did actually dismiss these offenders after such request by a police commissioner if the newspaper report be true, and it has not yet been denied.

This is exactly the state of affairs which we charged existed in the Malloy case. We charged that the "interest police commissioners and political powers had in the outcome" "was evidenced by their presence and position in the police court," and that "the corrupt alliance was shown by the presence of the police commissioners and others."

Here we have a similar case. The corrupt alliance is acknowledged by the commissioners when they state that the department, (which in law has nothing to do with law enforcement whatever) had no intention to hold autoists strict-

ly responsible and, according to Justice John's words, "has allowed them to go almost twice as fast."

And here also we have the Justice letting off the violators because the police commissioners acted as they did.

Yet the editor of this paper is sentenced to jail for stating just such facts as these all because a trial was forced on him when he was physically too weak and mentally exhausted to even attempt to defend himself against base misrepresentations of his charges.

Now it behooves us to state that no one would even think from this article or from the former one that we had suggested for a moment that Justice John got any money for his decision or that the term corrupt alliance meant that the violators of the law paid to the police department for immunity and there would be no occasion for even stating this here if it were not for the fact that attorneys for the prosecution tried to make it appear that we had done that very thing and were it not for the further fact that if that were libel this would be too if we did not state more clearly than we would ordinarily think it necessary that our use of the word corrupt was the ORDINARY primary use of that word as defined by our authority Webster.

It is just this assumption of authority by the police commission which is not only corrupt in itself but is the source of corrupting the streams of justice in regard to all our laws in that it lets down the bars to violation of any law by taking law enforcement out of the duly constituted executives of the law and putting it into the hands of a board which is not only not directly responsible to the people but which also acts in secret, and secrecy is an ally of the devil himself.

In the auto speeding case the justice was in a quandary. He either must fine, according to law \$50.00 or dismiss the cases. And BECAUSE the police department had undertaken to annul the law by changing in practice the speed limit and was thus in effect doing away with law the justice must either act contrary to law, which he did, or else punish all for a small offence which would work a hardship on the public because the public had been given to understand by the

department that the law would not be enforced and if the department had a right to let off the women of crime on Mayo street, surely it had a right to change the law of speeding in favor of law respecting citizens.

Now, tho the principle of letting the police commissioners have anything to do with the Justice's decision or the sworn duty of the police or the changing of duly made laws is both pernicious and anarchistic, still The Idea would perhaps not have anything to say about this comparatively minor offence of the Justice in going contrary to law.

The point however is that the bars are let down to an evil influence on law enforcement and that is the influence of the police board.

Now, in the Molloy case when Justice John appeared to be influenced by the presence and position of police commissioners in the court we felt it time to censure all parties concerned BECAUSE THE DECISION rendered appeared to be DECIDELY UNJUST in treating two different prostitutes unlike on the same offence.

The Idea does not attempt to be so particular as to jump one for a technical ignoring of law if the action is not unjust BUT when such action makes one party suffer heavily and lets off easily a more guilty offender then will this paper protest in no uncertain terms, tho the editor has to suffer for it.

The police commissioners admitted a rotten, corrupt alliance with law violators by ignoring their oaths of office and establishing contrary to law two or more Red-light districts. "Their presence and position" in court, we believed, helped influence the judge in his decision just as their open defence of their instructions nullifying the speed limit law, according to the words of the Justice, did influence him in that case.

If the editor had let the fact that he had borrowed money in the dim and distant past keep him from exposing such evils he would have been unworthy of his position as editor.

No, The Idea has done its duty and will continue so to do as long as it lasts.

Just suppose The Idea had begun operating here and refused to expose such public men as are known to be crooks; then the people would have known what would have been true; that we were out for the coin and not to accomplish good. Just as they know by such actions on the part of certain daily papers they know that their object is to make money, but such is not a base object for them, tho if The Idea made money it would be considered a nefarious crime.

### More Plain Talk.

(Continued from page 7)

therefore will always exist. It is a necessary evil that your boy and your neighbor's daughter should be sold body and soul for the sake of the greed of the keepers of the houses and the owners of the property and for "the protection of the home and of society." That is the sort of argument they use to justify their position and their violation of their solemn oath of office.

What! Is it necessary for the protection of your home and your neighbor's home that that dear child whom you love as your own life should be ruined forever?

Tell us, mothers, you who have offered your very lives as a willing sacrifice to bring into the world those pure, innocent, little ones at your knee, do YOU think it a necessary evil that any one or all of them should be prostitutes for the protection of society? If so, which one will you pick out and thus offer as a gift "for the protection of society."

"Oh no, not MY child," you exclaim as you gather them to your mother heart.

Your neighbor's child then, eh! No, mothers, you don't think that either. You know that the whole miserable argument is damnable; that it is cowardly, that it is but an excuse on the part of dissipated, immoral men, cowardly men for the round of vice of which they are guilty, but for which they would drive you as an outcast from your own home and children.

On this subject we are simply heart sick and sore and we are led to exclaim with the man of God of old:

"HOW LONG? OH LORD, HOW LONG?"

### FOLK ON LAW ENFORCEMENT.

"A dozen aggressively righteous men can bring about law and order where lawlessness and disorder have prevailed. The business man who fears to give his support to any movement towards law enforcement for fear it will injure his business, is just as much a coward as the soldier on the battlefield who turns his back to the enemy and flees for safety.



# Times-Dispatch

## News Suppressor.

Treated The Editor of The Idea "Very Unfairly Indeed"

---

We published about three weeks ago a statement showing how the Times-Dispatch willfully and maliciously injured this paper by withholding the news about the retraction of the Rev. Tilden Scherer from the people.

Likewise Mr. R. S. Barbour of South Boston was deceived by the Times-Dispatch into a hasty decision that the editor of The Idea had made a mis-statement, and was quoted by the Times-Dispatch as having gone back on the editor.

Later Mr. Barbour sent a letter to the Times Dispatch retracting his former position after he found out the truth about the Glass matter. This letter that paper refused to publish and returned to Mr. Barbour. We quote from Mr. Barbour's letter of March 14, 1910.

"I note what you say about the Times-Dispatch not publishing the last statement of Mr. Scherer, and you may state the same thing from me, as I sent both the Times-Dispatch and the Leader a copy of my corrected statement, and the T.-D. returned the piece to me refusing publication. I think they have treated you very unfairly indeed. With best wishes I am,"

There are in Richmond many people who have gotten false impressions about this paper and about recent trials from the Times-Dispatch which refused to give them the truth about us preferring to give only such halfway evidence as would hurt us and as a result that paper has made some friends of the Idea think we were wrong in our public censures of political wrong doers. A half truth is worse than a lie and the Times-Dispatch has taken a delight in telling half-truth about us for which we trust they shall yet have to answer in heavy damages besides for the absolute falsehoods which they printed about us.

## WEEKLY PRICE LIST

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C. N. PARKER

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Gold Medal Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	Winner Condensed Milk, per can . . . . .	11
Obelisk Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	3 Large Cans Uncle Ned Tomatoes . . . . .	28
Dunlop Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	6 Bars Octagon Soap . . . . .	25
Clover Leaf Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	Good Mackerel . . . . .	05
Arbuckle Coffee, per lb. . . . .	17	Large Irish Potatoes, per peck . . . . .	25
Church-Hill Pride Coffee, per lb. . . . .	17	Old Virginia Herring Roe, per can . . . . .	10
PURITY BUTTERINE, per lb. . . . .	23	Smoked Shoulder, per lb. . . . .	14
Good Lard, per lb. . . . .	15		
Round Beef Steak, per lb. . . . .	15		
Pork Steak, per lb. . . . .	18		

## SPECIAL

A Good Flour at 43c. per bag.

All Goods not mentioned are in line with our low prices.

## POLICY

## Before and after Taking The Idea

From the records of Justice John Crutchfield's court we take the following extracts.

These show that in February 1908 one Marshall Harris was jailed one day and fined \$20 on the same charge, of selling policy, on which in last August one Davy Mims was fined \$50 and jailed for 30 days.

Now The Idea would like to enquire of Justice John why this difference? Why was Davy given 30 times as much jail sentence and 2 1-2 times as much fine as was Marshall?

We enquire to know.

Will Justice John kindly answer?

The records read almost identically even as to the wording of the warrants, except that the one fined less seems to have been guilty of the greater crime for his warrant seems to cover a multitude of sins extending over perhaps a year's time while Davy's crime, according to the warrant, covered only one day.

Now gentle reader, notice that The Idea was born BETWEEN the times of the fining of the two culprits.

We wonder if this fact has anything to do with the large fine last August. Or is there some other reason?

Justice John—Your move.

#### THE RECORD No. 1.

Feb. 14, 1908	CHARGE	RESULT
Name	On warrant, did unlawfully set up, promote and be concerned in a certain lottery or raffle called "Policy" for money or other things of value within 12 months last past.	Guilty. Fined \$20 and sentenced to jail one (1) day.
Marshall Harris		

#### THE RECORD No. 2.

Aug. 31, 1909	CHARGE	RESULT
Name	On warrant, did unlawfully set up promote and be concerned in a certain game of chance known as policy on the 14th day of August.	Fined \$50
Davy Mims		Jailed 30 days.

In looking further over the records we found only one other arrest for policy and that one was before we came here. That violator was fined only \$20 and jailed for one day.

No body seems to know and it makes no difference anyway whom the Times-Dispatch or the News-Leader borrows money from.

But it makes a big difference whom The Idea borrows money from.

And the reason is this: The Idea is fighting evil, while the two papers mentioned are "business enterprises", that is, they are after making money and whatever is such a business enterprise is all right.

Just let the Times-Dispatch fight evil as this paper is doing and right soon it will be a very important question (for the crooks) as to where they got the money.

# Wm. Jennings Bryan.

## On The Saloon.

---

"Organized against private virtue and public morals."

Not a question of local option because when a community attempts to deal with the question "It must engage in a war with a foreign power"

Whenever a community attempts to deal with the saloon question, instead of having to deal with one of its own citizens, it finds itself in a struggle with great corporations, which operate over a large area, and have a pecuniary interest in cultivating the appetite for drink; instead of settling the question by consulting its own voters, it must engage in a war with a foreign power.

"The saloon—not every one, but as a rule—is in alliance with vice. It is constantly used to debauch politics, and to prevent the intelligent consideration of public questions. The liquor interests interfere in all matters that may even remotely affect their interests. They made themselves odious at the last session of the Nebraska Legislature. The democrats had a majority in both branches for the first time in the State's history, and the splendid record of the Legislature has but one blot on it, and that blot was put there by the liquor interests. They controlled enough of the senators to prevent the submission of the initiative and referendum. They were willing to deny to the people or the State the right to express themselves on any question rather than risk the use of the initiative and referendum for the submission of the liquor question. Insolence, arrogance and imprudence cannot go farther.

The democratic party cannot afford to act as the mouthpiece of the liquor interests. It can have nothing in common with the selfish, mercenary and conscienceless crusade that the liquor interest have organized against the home and the State—against private virtue and public morals."—The Commoner.



## Money Given Away

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### Prizes for Boys. Four Different Contests.

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On last Saturday The Idea gave away prizes to the twelve boys selling the largest number of Ideas in the December-January prize contest. Only ten prizes were offered but so many of the boys did well that twelve were given away.

The first prize, a handsome fountain pen, was won by Joseph Anderson.

The eleven additional prizes were first quality two blade pocket knives.

The February-March contest will be up with next Saturday's sales, tho it will probably be two weeks later before all the returns are in and counted.

Besides these bi-monthly prizes a friend of The Idea's has offered to give away 5 one dollar bills to the five boys selling the largest number of Ideas today, March 19th.

If you can't stick to it long enough to get a two month's prize, why not get busy today and earn a dollar or two besides an extra dollar.

### HERE'S YOUR CHANCE, BOYS

Next month, April, The Idea will give away in addition to the regular two-monthly prizes a suitable prize to every boy who sells as many as twenty copies of The Idea in each of the five Saturdays in that month. By this means you can get a prize even if the other fellow does bear you selling. All you have got to do is to sell twenty Ideas each Saturday in April.

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**WANTED,**

**TO RENT** Small house or flat in suburbs, Barton Heights preferred.

Address X care The Idea Office, Richmond, Va.

## "FOR MEN ONLY"

We wish to announce to our many customers that we are now located in our store at No. 618 East Main St., and are fully equipped to put your OLD DULL SAFETY RAZOR BLADES in perfect condition, "while you wait" for 30c. per dozen. We also GRIND RAZORS, SCISSORS, CARVING AND POCKET KNIVES, and any kind of a sharp edge tool, and we absolutely guarantee our work to please you in every respect. Give us a trial and we will prove to you and convince you that we are experts in this line of work.

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FRESH MEATS, VEGETABLES, CANNED GOODS,  
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# LOOK BOYS!



## MANY PRIZES

Be sure and read the article in this number on prizes for

### SELLING IDEAS

## EVERY BOY CAN WIN

WEEKLY **5c** THE COPY

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

April 2, 1910

No. 14

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## The City Council And Who To Elect

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FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

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BEING SOME SERMONETTES PUBLISHED WEEKLY FOR THE  
COMMON GOOD AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, By ADON A,  
YODER, EDITOR, PUBLISHER AND PRINTER 904  
CAPITOL STREET, RICHMOND, VA.



# Prizes for Boys--February-March Contest

Ten prizes will be given to the ten boys selling the greatest number of IDEAS in February and March. Prizes were recently given out for the December-January contest. A handsome fountain pen was the first prize, and first quality stag handle pocket knives were given to the nine boys selling the nine next largest numbers. One boy sold 491 copies in the two months.

Selling IDEAS pays the boys well even if they do not secure the first prize.

JEWELER

J. S. JAMES

OPTICIAN

7th AND MAIN STS.

We have in our Fall Stock, and are  
showing special good values in

DIAMONDS, WATCHES, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, CUT G'ASS, Etc.

We invite your inspection

HEADQUARTERS for your sick wants; your family and toilet  
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Sick Feeders, Bandages, Crutches, Rubber Water Bottles,  
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Goods delivered anywhere in the city.

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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

APRIL 2, 1910

No. 14

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## Pollock and Mills

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### Must Be Beaten

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ON April 21st the citizens of Richmond will be called upon to elect an entire new council of 35 members, five from each ward, and one-half of the board of aldermen.

It therefore behooves each qualified voter to examine carefully the candidates in his ward and see who has proven fit for re-election and who not, and who of the new candidates is capable and fit and who is not.

Whatever is done with other councilmen let the citizens of Jefferson Ward defeat Morgan R. Mills and let the citizens of Madison Ward defeat Gilbert Pollock.

These two men have done more than any others to thwart the will of the people in the past. These two have been responsible for the election by the council of men whom the people have found unworthy of their positions.

## MILLS AND MANNING

---

Morgan R. Mills is the man who NOMINATED C. Manning for the position of police commissioner in 1907, AFTER Mr. Manning had been indicted by the grand jury for misdemeanor in connection with the election frauds and AFTER Manning had confessed in 1903 to having accepted between 1,100 and 2,000 dollars from the Bell people for his services in getting through the council an ordinance favorable to that company.

Mr. Manning stated before the council investigating committee that on a trip to New York Mr. Chipley, representative of the Bell Co., "took us to the Waldorf and gave us an excellent dinner . . . . - we were wined and dined and smoked very fine cigars. . . . . Mr. Chipley employed us (Saunders and Manning) jointly and he never stipulated any sum . . . . . He gave us a thousand dollars between us, and afterwards he gave me some more. I think he probably gave me more than Mr. Saunders.

Question—He said he thought he gave you \$2,000.00.

Answer—Well, Mr. Chipley was mistaken in that. He gave me \$500 at first; he gave me \$500 again and then I think he gave me \$100.

Question—It was for your services in advocating the passage of the ordinance?

Answer—Yes, sir. . . . . And I went around to see the friends I had in the city council.

Question—What friends in the city council did you solicit?

Answer—I think about everybody in there in an offhand way. . . . . I saw practically all the Jefferson ward delegation, and probably the Marshall ward delegation and such other friends as I had in the council that I felt I had any influence with. . . . . My friends told me there was nothing wrong in it, that I had a right to accept money for my services. I took an interest in politics and had a right to do it. . . . . I saw no impropriety in my getting just a small slice of it."

Now this man Manning, who saw no impropriety in "getting just a small slice of it", \$1,100 or more, for his political influence, is nominated by Morgan R. Mills and the ring-devised plan is carried through the council by the weight of the political influence of Morgan R. Mills and then this same Morgan R. Mills has the assurance to ask the voters of Jefferson ward to again return him to the council.

Let the Church Hill people keep their eyes open and vote for one who will put into offices of trust men who have regard for their oaths of office and who after swearing an oath to enforce the laws will not turn around and decide that it is not wise to enforce them—decide that their opinion must hold precedence over the supreme law of the land. This same Mr. Manning could not get elected by popular vote, as a police commissioner and yet through the influence of such influential politicians as Morgan R. Mills, he is retained in office to set aside the people's laws.

Then the voter wants to know how he can help it. The only way he can help it is to see to it that men are seated who will not vote for such men.

The council elects police commissioners and the people elect the councilmen.

Get good councilmen and you will not have to bother about getting good police commissioners.

And when your councilmen elect police commissioners who do not regard their official oaths then it is time to enquire what the trouble is with the councilman and what is HIS MOTIVE in putting bad men in office.

The Idea does not hesitate to say that after a careful consideration of the workings of the city council it has not yet been able to find any member who is more hurtful to the interests of the people than the two men, Pollock and Mills.

---

If you have a plenty of money and edit a paper you are all right. But if you have to borrow money you'll have to go to jail, that is, if you amount to anything.



# Ring Methods

In Attempting to Suppress The Idea  
Manning and Gordon Make Money at  
the Editor's Expense

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Bring Action Against the Editor in the Name of the  
Commonwealth and then Collect Fees for their  
Own Pockets

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TO SHOW that the work of police commissioners in instituting action against the editor for criminal libel was in order to break up The Idea instead of in the interest of law and order as they pretended by swearing out a warrant in the name of the State, we print herewith copy of a section of the books of the Clerk of the Hustings Court. This shows how these commissioners have put money in their pockets, collected from the editor.

Mr. Manning, an officer of the state, collected 3.00 from the editor for testifying against the editor in his own (Manning's) behalf.

Mr. Douglas Gordon collected \$3.00 in witness fees for his own pockets for summoning himself to appear against the editor altho he never took the witness stand.

Likewise these men, Manning and Gordon, summoned many others, who had nothing to do with the case and who never appeared as witnesses, to appear in court and collect three dollars or so.

It looks like an attempt to pile up court expenses.

For instance, no one under the sun can tell why W. J. Griggs was summoned to appear, and yet, altho he never went on the stand, still because these commissioners summoned him the editor had to pay three dollars to him.

Likewise to F. I. Gentry and J. F. Wiley, police officers, three dollars and two and a half respectively were paid by the editor simply because it appears that the police commissioners were so anxious to put The Idea out of commission that they summoned those who had nothing to do with the case, and who never offered any testimony.

The question, therefore, is this: If these men were doing this work for any other than personal motives of malice towards the editor would they have collected these witness fees?

Notice this, too, that all but three of these witnesses, who got money for their appearance, were office holders of the city of Richmond and nearly every one held his position under Messrs. Manning and Gordon and it was on such testimony that the editor was convicted in a trial forced on him at a time when he was too exhausted to defend himself.

Below is the

#### List of Witnesses and Fees Collected

All except the first three are office holders, every one of whom has official relations with Messrs. Manning and Gordon.

I. Reinheimer .	\$1.50	W. A. Barfoot .	\$3.00
C. T. Fitzgerald .	2.00	R. B. Sowell .	3.00
C. W. Tyler .	2.00	W. Douglas Gordon	3.00
J. J. Crutchfield .	3.00	C. Manning, Jr. .	3.00
W. J. Griggs .	3.00	Louis Werner .	2.00
J. T. Wiley .	2.50	F. I. Gentry .	3.00
Total .		\$31.00.	

## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure, 'Phone Monroe 2708,

## City Politics

### Gilbert Pollock and Others

---

The voters of Madison ward have an opportunity of a lifetime in the contest for councilmen to put out Gilbert Pollock. No one should be permitted to appear to be a representative of the citizens whose livelihood, as far as external appearances go, is gained in opposition to the laws of the city, and that too in a police court presided over by a justice elected by the council of which he is one.

We make no bones of saying that Justice John being human cannot help being influenced in his decisions by the knowledge of the fact that the man pleading before him has a tremendous say as to not only what his salary shall be, but also as to whether he shall even get that salary at all after the next election.

The very greatest piece of good that can be gained at this election is this, to defeat G. K. Pollock at the polls. You can bet your last dollar he has been looking after his political fences and now it is up to the citizens who must finally decide this question to look after their interests enough to put in office a man who regards their interests, and one who will not be used by the ring to vote the way the ring leads.

What a pity that the council is to lose Mr. E. A. Barber from Madison ward. Mr. Barber does not offer this time for election unless the citizens insist on it.

We shall have to wait till next week to show up the political clique in Jefferson ward and to advocate a good man to succeed the real estate agent, H. R. Pollard, Jr., in Lee ward. Remember Pollard is the man, who since coming into the council has done a wonderful "land office" business and has used his position as councilman to get through special legislation which would help land booms at the expense of the old tax payers of the city.

In the Board of Aldermen contests the bout between Gunst and Ellett will need attention and the three cornered fight between Adams, Melton and Moody in Jefferson is also to be looked into.

In this ward a scheme is on to put into the council the old ring by nominating a bunch of weaklings to split the opposition vote.

Many of those whose names were listed in the Times-Dispatch as being candidates are not candidates and are not running for office. It is evidently a political scheme and many see in it the hand of Morgan Mills Past Master in the political game.

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## The Editor in Court.

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The editor of this paper has never yet been found guilty by the Supreme Court and has never yet been found innocent by a lower court.

Every time an appeal has been taken the decision has been changed. And the reason is this; The lower courts will always go against us even when they go directly contrary to law for they are in close touch with the political ring which we are exposing and they can not afford to offend the powers that be. We were sentenced to jail in Lynchburg but the Supreme Court reversed the lower judge and if we could have appealed in the two cases recently tried here we are sure the lower courts would be reversed because THE IDEA HAS VIOLATED NO LAW, but has done its duty. We expect to be soaked by the lower courts but we will continue to do our duty in spite of them and in spite of all the other agencies of evil in the community.



## Still Another Red-Light District.

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Altho Manning, Police Commissioner, on the witness stand defined the red-light district which the police commissioners had secretly set apart as a place in which the law might be violated with impunity as being on Mayo and Franklin Sts. and not extending beyond Broad St. still he later admitted that there was another little red light district upon 8th Street, nearly a half mile away from the older section.

Now there is a place on the north side of Broad which is more notorious as an assignation house than perhaps any other in the city, the Molloy house not excepted. This place is on the corner of Broad street and Jail Alley. It is a very large brick structure containing many rooms and operated by a woman. Entrance is made from the alley side which may be approached either from Broad street or from Marshall street, and those less bold use the latter route, sometimes leaving conveyances up by the Medical College.

A remarkable fact about this house is that entrance can not be had through the front door, as an iron fence has been built into and across the marble steps.

This was done at the time that word was sent forth from police headquarters that none of these houses would longer be permitted on Broad street.

Just by this little subterfuge this notorious place has been permitted to exist for years right on Broad street.

Like most such houses even the stranger can readily detect the nature of the place.

The blinds are always closed in the day time and the place is quiet and orderly while the sun shines.

As midnight approaches, however, the place is lit up with brilliant lights in which scarlet plays an important part.

Ask any old rounder and he will tell you the nature and the name of the owner of the place.

A few weeks ago when the writer left the city jail at midnight it was raining and a well equipped carriage stood on the corner of Broad and Jail Alley at this house waiting for the revellers to come out.

And yet the police department pretends to be anxious to break up these places.

If the police department wanted to break up such places this place would have been the first one to go and there would have been no secret compromise with the owner on the condition that she stop up the front entrance.

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## The News-Leader Lottery Scandal.

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Along back in the summer of last year The Idea under the heading of "The News-Leader Scandal" exposed the corrupt deal of that paper in conducting an unfair and misleading contest for subscribers. At the last moment of the contest the paper allowed Mr. S. M. Bowman to put up \$3,000 or so for subscriptions and thus win the first prize apparently without doing a lick of work in soliciting bonafide subscription.

Such a kick was raised at the time by those who had entered the contest in good faith and had spent weeks of time and labor in actual work of solicitation, that the whole matter was thrown into the courts and now Colonel B. O. James, Special Commissioner to investigate the case declares the whole affair a lottery as defined by law and it looks as tho the News-Leader will be debarred from the mails as a result of it for the federal laws against lotteries are very strict indeed.

Colonel James in his report states according to 'The Virginian, the only paper which on March 29th, had dared say anything about the finding of the commissioner, that he does not hold either the editor or the owner of the paper responsible for the misrepresentations made as he believes they were made without their knowledge. That is indeed a new doctrine in Virginia, that an editor or owner of a paper conducting a lottery can get off by claiming ignorance.

If "misrepresentations" were made concerning the campaign the paper certainly must have known because were they not the agent through which the misrepresenting was done?

Was it not the columns of The News-Leader that alone advertised the contest?

Can it be that the decision of the commissioner is influenced by the fact that Col. James owes his election as secretary of the commonwealth to the activity of the editor of The News-Leader in opposing his most powerful opponent's nomination by the State Committee?

It looks like the really responsible parties in any fraud in Virginia are never brought to justice if they happen to have influence in politics.

The commissioner refers to "tricks" and "subterfuges" and "fraudulent practices" and "misrepresentations" and decides that the whole scheme was a "lottery" and says that "Because the rules and conditions governing the contest were frequently changed after the contest was in progress, and because of various misrepresentations and misunderstandings it is impossible to determine who really won by the original terms, since, says the commissioner, "the subtle terms of this shrewdly disguised lottery make it difficult to classify it with other and different lotteries."

As a result all the men, women and children who spent time, labor and money with the promise of reward will have to lose everything they put into the contest because they were deceived by a public newspaper.

The prizes are declared confiscated to the state and the end is not yet.

Tho the people who took part in the affair are not morally to blame still they should have expected nothing more from a paper whose moral standards are so perverted as to deliberately fight for a perpetuation in Virginia of the most nefarious traffic that ever cursed a people—the legalized alcoholic beverage traffic.



## Carlton McCarthy

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### The Live Wire, Speaks to Men

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Richmond has had one Mayor,—perhaps more, but certainly one,—and that one is Carlton McCarthy, the uncompromising foe of evil.

Some years ago Carlton McCarthy edited a paper called "The Live Wire", which same live wire not only burnt a way for him into the hearts of his fellow citizens but burnt alive many evil doers and eventually earned for the editor the title most appropriate to him, of the Live Wire Mayor of Richmond.

On Monday night, Nov. 21st, Carlton McCarthy gave a characteristic speech at the First Baptist Church.

The occasion was the meeting of the Men's League of that church, of which Carlton McCarthy was the first president about forty years ago.

In this speech he showed the lack of organization on the part of workers for right as contrasted with the well laid plans of organized evil. His text was, "The children of this world are more wise in their generation than the children of Light." And among other things he said:

"They are organized; they are equalized; they are capitalized."

Referring to the dime theatre he said: "Doing more harm than anything that has happened in all my life in Richmond."

"Many of you don't know it, and yet the charter of the city has put it into your power to prevent it; not simply to stop it, but to prevent it. If you know that such a house is being built you can actually stop work on it."

Referring to the whiskey business, he said: "The other day a great big giant of a fellow, over six feet tall, (meaning Senator Keezell) and chairman of Finance Committee of the State, got up on the floor of the Senate and said that the State of Virginia could not get along without the revenue from whiskey licenses. And I say, if that's true, then fare-



well, old Virginia; let her rip. If the government can't be run without it, the I say it ought to stop running."

"The liquor business constitutes all the things the devil desires."

Referring to the organization and capitalization of the forces of evil and the lack of plan and money in the carrying out of good deeds he said about these words: "I have sat in this church at the annual church meeting and seen brother X of sainted memory, get up and tell the church with much humiliation and long-facedness that the church found itself at the close of another year eleven hundred dollars in debt, and that some plans should be made to raise that amount," and that the church after much solemnity and pious looks and prayers would raise a part of it, when there were sitting in that meeting five or six men any one of whom could have paid the whole amount and not missed it, and would the next day go down to his office and write a check for expense account for a much larger sum and forget it before dinner."

Then he added: "I sometimes think that if the devil is a humorist, he must have an awful good time in a church meeting." (Much laughter.)

After that wonderfully inspiring talk, the papers came out the next day, as far as we could find, with no comment on the best speech heard in Richmond for many a day.

And the reason is this: The daily papers of Richmond have done their level best to kill McCarthy as a political factor and they think they have accomplished it if they can keep his beneficent acts out of the public eye.

It is an indisputable fact that whenever any good man gains office or power in Richmond he is assassinated by the daily papers of the city, who twist his utterances and make the people believe he did and said things which never entered his brain, and by their nefarious slanders the press of Richmond has stolen from an office in which he was working untold good the best public servant Richmond has ever had, and has deliberately twisted his statements so that good men of the community have been led to believe he was reckless and fanatical, when a more careful and exact and conscientious worker for the public good has not offered himself for office in this generation.

# How to Run Richmond

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## Ask Your Candidate for Council if He Will Vote for This.

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Since the legislature has acted favorably on such legislation as is necessary to make it possible for Richmond to have government by commission one naturally wants to know more about what it is.

The following will give a good idea of how it works.

It is clipped from The Times-Dispatch of a recent date and purports to be an interview with Judge Sweeney, Mayor of El Paso, Texas, which is governed by a small council of five men who are elected, not by wards, but by the whole city, thus making each one responsible to all the citizens.

If Richmond had such a system, the mayor would be mayor indeed and Richmond would besides have better streets and sewers and more public improvements and save a barrel of money every year WITHOUT GOING INTO DEBT.

"In 1907, by the consent of the Legislature, we adopted the commission form of government, and have never regretted it. I was selected Mayor, or chairman of the commission, and I am now serving my second term of office. I was re-elected without opposition.

"The commission consists of a Mayor and four Aldermen, all elected from the city at large. The Mayor is clothed with full authority, and is held responsible to the people for the conduct of all branches of the municipal departments. He is personally responsible for the finances of the city and the conduct of all the officers except the Councilmen. Each Alderman, or commissioner, is made chairman of certain departments of the government, and is in authority over them, under the direction of the Mayor.

### Mayor is General Manager

"It makes a legislative body of five men, and practically does away with the old idea that a city council is a village debating society. We

proceed on the assumption that the city is a corporation, similar to business corporations, and that the Mayor is the general manager, or superintendent of directors. This body is elected and put in charge by the stockholders—the citizens. The city being a corporation, and usually the biggest within the corporate limits, there is no reason why the application of a little common sense in managing it on a business basis should be detrimental.

"The legislative body being small and compact, enables citizens to place responsibility. The lack of numbers in the legislative body has a tendency to make the councilmen considerably more cautious in the exercise of their authority in voting away the people's money, or passing foolish legislation. In the commission form of government it is possible to misapply moneys or to use poor judgment; but each individual member realizes that vast responsibilities rest upon him, and this in itself is calculated to make him use better judgment and act with more discretion in the discharge of the functions of his office.

"Each alderman is responsible for the expenditures of money in his department, and upon him devolves the duty of seeing that each employe does his duty. By the charter, the Mayor is required to devote his entire time to the city's interests, and each alderman is required to work six hours each day. In El Paso the Mayor receives a salary of \$250 per month, and each alderman receives \$150 per month. The compensation to the Mayor in our city is insufficient, by reason of the fact that if he is capable of managing the affairs of the city, he is capable of earning a larger sum in other pursuits.

### How El Paso Has Grown

"Since the commission form of government became effective in El Paso, we have by the application of business methods saved the city approximately \$50,000 a year in expenditures. We have acquired about forty acres for park purposes, and have enlarged the fire department, taking it from a volunteer basis and making it a paid department. We have erected four fire engine houses, and equipped the same, with money from the general fund. These were the first buildings of a public nature ever erected without the assistance of a bond issue.

"We have built and extended sanitary sewers over various portions of the city without special levies or bond issues. During the past three

years we have built thirty miles of paved streets, which may appeal to Richmond. When I assumed the duties as Mayor the city values on the tax books amounted to \$15,000,000. They will total \$29,800,000 today. I will resign as Mayor when I return, and my only reason is that I cannot hold the position at the present salary."

---

### "HE CARRIED LOVE."

---

"All day he toiled, from dawn till sable night.

But whistled as he worked along his way:

And people wondered how one toiler might

Winnow such gladness from each busy day.

None ever guessed even half the joy he knew

Nor yet how well he played life's little part;

To him the skies above were ever blue

Because he carried love within his heart."

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C. N. PARKER

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Dunlop Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	6 Bars Octagon Soap . . . . .	25
Clover Leaf Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	Good Mackerel . . . . .	05
Arbuckle Coffee, per lb. . . . .	17	Large Irish Potatoes, per peck . . . . .	25
Church-Hill Pride Coffee, per lb. . . .	17	Old Virginia Herring Roe, per can . . .	10
PURITY BUTTERINE, per lb. . . . .	23	Smoked Shoulder, per lb. . . . .	14
Good Lard, per lb. . . . .	15		
Round Beef Steak, per lb. . . . .	15		
Pork Steak, per lb. . . . .	18		

#### SPECIAL

A Good Flour at 43c. per bag.

All Goods not mentioned are in line with our low prices.



## Money Given Away



### Prizes for Boys. Four Different Contests.



A few weeks ago The Idea gave away prizes to the twelve boys selling the largest number of Ideas in the December-January prize contest. Only ten prizes were offered but so many of the boys did well that twelve were given away.

The first prize, a handsome fountain pen, was won by Joseph Anderson.

The eleven additional prizes were first quality two blade pocket knives.

The February-March contest will be up with next Saturday's sales, tho it will probably be two weeks later before all the returns are in and counted.

If you can't stick to it long enough to get a two month's prize, why not get busy today and earn a dollar or two besides an extra dollar.

### HERE'S YOUR CHANCE, BOYS

This month, April, The Idea will give away in addition to the regular two-monthly prizes a suitable prize to every boy who sells as many as twenty copies of The Idea in each of the five Saturdays in that month. By this means you can get a prize even if the other fellow does bear you selling. All you have got to do is to sell twenty Ideas each Saturday in April.

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**WANTED,**  
**TO RENT** Small house or flat in suburbs, Barton  
Heights preferred.

Address X care The Idea Office, Richmond, Va.

## "FOR MEN ONLY"

We wish to announce to our many customers that we are now located in our store at No. 618 East Main St., and are fully equipped to put your OLD DULL SAFETY RAZOR BLADES in perfect condition, "while you wait" for 30c. per dozen. We also GRIND RAZORS, SCISSORS, CARVING AND POCKET KNIVES, and any kind of a sharp edge tool, and we absolutely guarantee our work to please you in every respect. Give us a trial and we will prove to you and convince you that we are experts in this line of work.

Razors Honed And Set 15c. Each.

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618 EAST MAIN STREET.

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Paving, Halls, Vestibules, Basements, &c.

The Editor has known Mr. Ewing personally for the last twenty years, and he takes pleasure in stating that his reputation for first-class work and straight forward, satisfactory dealing is unexcelled.

PROMPT SERVICE.

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# LOOK BOYS!



## MANY PRIZES

Be sure and read the article in this number on prizes for

**SELLING IDEAS**

## EVERY BOY CAN WIN

WEEKLY **5c** THE COPY

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# THE IDEA

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A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

April 9, 1910

No. 15

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This Paper Stands for  
**MAN INTERESTS**

Instead of

**MONEY INTERESTS.**

That's why the courts go against us.

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FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

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BEING SOME SERMONETTES PUBLISHED WEEKLY FOR THE  
COMMON GOOD AT RICHMOND, VIRGINIA, By ADON A,  
YODER, EDITOR, PUBLISHER AND PRINTER 904  
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HEADQUARTERS for your sick wants; your family and toilet  
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Sick Feeders, Bandages, Crutches, Rubber Water Bottles,  
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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

APRIL 9, 1910

No. 15

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,  
904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## Corrupt Politics In Richmond

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THE IDEA has made a most minute and careful study of political trickery in Richmond and has obtained a fund of information which proves to the mind of the editor beyond a shadow of a doubt that Richmond today is almost as crooked politically as Pittsburg, where not only many councilmen have been caught but where many business men and even bankers are found to be guilty of bribery and corruption in the worst meaning of that term.

The Idea does not publish except when it has actual evidence. It does not act on hearsay and never has, despite the lies of the Times-Dispatch to the contrary.

We have enough actual evidence in hand to assure us of a far-reaching and corrupt bribe taking conspiracy against

the people on the part of the people's chosen representatives in the council.

Some of our evidence we are not able at this time to show to the people. Some of it is not advisable yet to print for reasons best known to ourselves. The big fact, however, remains, and what we have already shown in the past proves it, that politically Richmond is rotten to the core.

From time to time, as the digestion of the people can stand it, we will expose such a state of affairs as shall demand a complete examination and a putting out of the rascals and a change in the form of government which will make it almost impossible for a similar condition to recur.

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# For Scott and Smith, Lawyers

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## The Editor As Preacher.

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During the recent trials of the Editor, attorneys Scott and Smith took advantage of a privileged occasion to make false statements concerning the editor and to malign him in language which neither one of them would have ever dared to use without the protection of the courts, and courts, at that, presided over by men with whom they were on intimate terms when the editor was a stranger to both.

In their cowardly attacks they tried to make the people believe that because the editor used the term "sermonettes" on the cover of *The Idea* that he was a "sneaking hypocrite" "wearing the livery of heaven" and working in the interest of the devil by making money out of *The Idea* (tho we have never made anything out of it, but have lost money.)

Now perhaps a little truth about such affairs will be in order.

The Editor of this paper is a duly accredited Baptist preacher having been formally commissioned and authorized by his church to do "the work of the Gospel Ministry" "by preaching" and he has today that commission in his possession, and has for twelve years to the best of his ability carried out that commission and for a part of that time has engaged at a tremendous cost to himself in the most effective kind of preaching, namely the publishing of *The Idea* whereby he has been able to reach many thousand people each week rather than a few hundred as a pastor of a church.

In other words he has laid aside "the clerical robes," which were his by right, because he could preach more effectively through a paper than he could from a pulpit, in that as a preacher in a pulpit he felt handicapped by those who would be hiring him to preach.

And he had the best authority under the sun for his course.

Jesus himself though "a high priest forever" did not clothe himself in priestly robes or preach from the pulpit as a member of the formal priest-hood but as a man to his fellow men, he went about doing good and not calling on an organized church to pay him for his services and thus handicap his work. Paul himself likewise made his own living and said what he pleased, fearing no man and bowing to no influential church member who might ADVISE him to be careful about censuring any certain evil. And both men were ostracized and killed because they dared say things which those in authority did not want to be said.

No; instead of coming with the livery of Heaven! and doing the works of Hell as Lawyer Scott so debased himself as to state, the editor has laid aside the "livery of Heaven" and taken on the livery of Hell, the same kind of clothing that ordinary lawyers wear in order that he might preach more effectually; and it is just because his preaching is effectual that it has been found advisable to get such lawyers as Smith and Scott to oppose him.

The Great Teacher must have had in mind just such men as these when he said "woe unto you also, ye lawyers! for ye lade men with burdens grievously to be borne, and ye yourselves touch not the burdens with one of your fingers. Woe unto you! for ye built the sepulchers of the prophets, and your fathers killed them."

Yes the editor is a preacher and if he ever finds he can accomplish more in a pulpit than he can as a publisher he will go back to the pulpit tho he has been turning down every invitation to preach in pulpits, and he has many such requests, because he has not had time to spare from his more important work of preaching to a larger field through this independent, non-denominational, truth telling paper.



# Times-Dispatch Tommy Rot.

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## Hypocrisy

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A PAPER that will one day advocate the whiskey business and the next day say it does it to protect "the Church" from the evil of entering politics is nothing more nor less than a hypocrite.

Any one who can read The Times-Dispatch and put two and two together knows full well that that paper has no concern whatever for the future of the church as it pretends to have, and that its chief concern is for the bar room which furnishes so much to the support of that paper.

That paper is trying to make people believe that as soon as the church advocates moral laws that that means a union of church and State when the editor of that paper knows, if he is neither a baby nor in his dotage (we strongly suspect he is in his dotage) that there is no more union of church and state in the Anti-Saloon League's fight for better liquor laws than there is a union of the Chamber of commerce and the state when some bar keepers who are members of that body petition the legislature for lower licenses.

Fighting saloons has nothing to do with this tommy rot talk of a union of church and state.

There is, however, an actual union in Virginia of church and state and if The Times-Dispatch were at all sincere it would be concerned about this union which makes the state of Virginia help support the churches by giving them each year to support these churches the money which is due from them in taxes. We do not tax church property in Virginia and this constitutes an open union of church and state, and every man, whether a church man or not, is forced by this union to support the churches.

(Continued on page 13.)

# The Old Lady of Bank Street

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We have noticed that the daily papers have been terming The Virginian "The Old Lady of Governor Street."

If one will read the sensible, logical, reasonable editorials of The Virginian and then turn to the dodging, evasive, wordy, garrulous editorials which have crowded the pages of The Times-Dispatch since they annexed a certain female editorial writer from the hot house of South Carolina, he will soon conclude that the old lady lives not on Governor Street, but in the musty rooms of The Supreme on Bank Street where the Bryan boys caress and court her and let her drink wine "to her bodily comfort" and to the silly loosening of her editorial tongue.

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## Bowling Errs Again

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The same kind of a blunder that Bowling made in not getting releases from damages due to grading from property owners in Fairmount he repeated out on Taylor Street as developed in the council the other night.

It appears that the work was done half way in that the engineer got releases from some but failed to get releases from three other owners and now these owners are presenting their claims to the city.

But our council still retains Mr. Bowling, a jolly good club fellow, but absolutely not big enough for his job.

## Correction

---

In last week's Idea we censured Manning and Gordon for summoning F. I. Gentry as one "who never offered any testimony".

We are since informed that F. I. Gentry did appear as a witness but that C. W. Tyler did not. The editor had to pay C. W. Tyler \$2.00 for being summoned to appear against him for 4 days altho we do not know who Tyler was nor for what he was summoned.

Our criticism was of the police commissioners for acting for the purpose of putting The Idea out of commission by excessive court expenses. Our censure, it will be seen, was not applicable to the case of Gentry but was to the case of Tyler which we did not mention.

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## The Idea Has a "Wonderful Following" in Lynchburg

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(Letter from Richmond Traveling Man)

---

Dated at Carroll Hotel, Lynchburg, Va.

Mr. Adon A. Yoder,  
Richmond, Va.

Sir:—

I came to Lynchburg yesterday and went to a news stand to get one of your papers, and I was told that they were all sold, sold in a few hours after they got in Lynchburg.

I find that you have a wonderful following here among the best class of people, in fact I was astonished to learn how many friends you have made of late.

The people of Lynchburg are glad to get the truth, and they, like the people of all other places, want the truth and honor the man who is brave enough to just tell it.

Hoping you are well, I am

Yours truly,

# Mills Misleads the Council

Says Councilman Lynch

---

At the last council meeting Morgan Mills opposed the appropriation for adjusting damages to property owners on Taylor Street, stating that the street committee should not come before the council and ask for more money right after the budget had been passed and that this appropriation meant (a big expenditure in) additional appropriations for the street department.

Mr. Lynch replied that this money could not be taken from the street department funds and that "Mr. Mills knows that he is misleading this council when he makes the statement he does."

It looks like Mr. Mills is afraid he won't get re-elected on the 21st, and he therefore finds it necessary to appear to be looking after the finances of the citizens by showing up the street committee, when by Mr. Lynch's exposé he really showed up himself.

## THE IDEA

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### Red Hot Again and Cartoons

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The Idea has been having troubles. Due to printing arrangements the editor found he could not print what he wanted to. It gives us pleasure to announce, however, that arrangements have been made whereby the editor can speak out boldly as formerly.

The Idea in the future will be alive as ever. You can't afford to miss it.

Next week we expect to have a cartoon again. Due to some dirty work of our enemies we have had to do without them for the past few weeks.

Watch next week's Scarlet Cover.



# Manning on Stand

## In The Libel Case.

MR. MEREDITH: What do you mean by the segregated district.

WITNESS: The red light district which is recognized by the police department?

Q. What are the bounds of that red light district?

A. The bounds of the red light district are Mayo Street from Broad to Franklin, and on Franklin to Governor; it was from 15th to Locust Alley (Locust Alley was taken in), but on account of the conditions changing and manufacturing establishments coming down there, it was restricted below the Alley. . . . .

Q. And houses of ill fame are allowed nowhere except in the Red Light District, and the police are instructed rigidly to break up everyone outside of that district?

A. Yes, Sir. . . . .

Q. Mr. Manning, you have spoken of the time that this policy was adopted, that there were houses all over town. I would ask you whether there were houses on 8th Street between Main and Cary at that time?

A. Yes, sir.

Q. Have those houses been broken up?

A. No, sir; those houses are in the Red Light District.

MR. MEREDITH: Does the Red Light District go up to 8th St?

WITNESS: Oh, no, sir; those houses that were there—

MR. MEREDITH: That is just a little segregation then—a little "Red Light District" by itself?

WITNESS: Yes.

MR. MEREDITH: Oh, I see. Wherever we strike such a house, we know that it is in one of these little segregated Red Light Districts? . . . . .

- A. We ruled what should be the Red Light District, and all outside of that should not be.
- Q. Then you ruled what you have described—15th and Governor and Franklin and Mayo, and so on—and at the same time you cut a little slice out on 8th Street, and said that should be a small Red Light District? Did you do that?
- A. My recollection of that thing is, there was a woman in one of those houses there. I think she owned the house— . . . . .
- Q. You could not break the house up there because she owned the house?
- A. No, that is not it, let me explain. My understanding of the matter was that the inmates were put out, and this woman lived there; and the real reason that this district was put up was that when we put these women there some of these landlords on Mayo Street commenced to raise the rents, and gentlemen told us about it, and we proposed to deal square—we didn't propose to stand for those landlords gouging those women; they raised the rents there, and citizens and real estate agents—
- Q. Never mind telling what others said to you.
- A. I am going to tell it—I have nothing in the world to conceal—and then we allowed them to stay in these two houses—three houses.
- Q. So in order that these women on 8th Street would not have to move where they would be charged a higher rent, you took that little slice and made a Red Light District of it?
- A. I didn't say that; I said we opened up that territory to let them come in there.
- Q. So as to create competition in rents; isn't that so?
- A. I said, so these landlords could not gouge these women.
- Q. So you opened up this territory at 8th and Main on account of the high rents on Mayo and those other streets?
- A. Not on 8th Street near Main; on 8th Street below the alley in the middle of the block, near Cary.

We wonder why neither the Leader nor the Journal nor The Times-Dispatch dared publish the three letters between Carter Glass and the editor of The Idea. Because the three letters showed we were right and Glass was wrong. And Glass is a politician, a politician.

# Our Dear Friend, Clyde Saunders

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On last Monday night a councilman asked where the copies of the Mayor's Annual Message were, which were ordered printed and distributed to members. He was informed that they were still in the hands of the printer. Now the city printer is Clyde W. Saunders and the council has had so much trouble in getting him to print its work in anything like a reasonable time that they ordered the Mayor's Message printed separately from the regular book form in which it is usually included. This was evidently ordered because last year it was some time in the fall before the previous year's reports were turned over by Mr. Saunders to the council.

Due to giving the printing to ex-political-boss Saunders, we get these reports printed nearly a year late, and, when it is desired to have a small part of the work rushed through in order to expedite the business of the council, we find that April has come and the Mayor's message is already three months old and yet the councilmen have not gotten copies.

If the council waits till the year is about over before being able to study the Mayor's message what is the use of having a city printer at all and what is the use in the Mayor wasting his time in writing an annual message.

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## The Elections

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The Political ring says The Idea has already defeated two political bosses. After April 21st we hope to hear them say that at least two other of the inside ring crowd, namely, Mills and Pollock, have gone down and that by their defeat the

city will be able to appoint better men to those offices which councilmen fill. The great trouble in opposing bad men for office is that in some of the wards no good men are offering themselves in opposition.

The papers of Saturday morning, the date on which this Idea will appear will tell who the candidates are, as on Friday night all will have to have paid up. After that The Idea will be better able to advise whom to oppose.

There is no use wasting powder in opposing a candidate who has no opposition at the polls.

Let the citizens of Lee ward put up a man against Pollard by all means.

Pollard may be all right when his interests don't conflict with the citizens' but no man whose interests conflict with the people's, as do his, should be allowed to be so tempted, especially since he has shown he can't stand the temptation, as he did in the matter of the real estate deal out beyond the Soldiers' Home.

Mr. Green of Monroe, the other real estate man, in the council is not as green as his name would indicate when it comes to looking out for special interests.

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## Engineer Bowling Doubly Responsible

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Elections may be an evil and yet they serve one good purpose. They put old councilmen on guard and in defending themselves they let the cat out of the bag, i. e. they are liable to tell on the other fellow to clear their own skirts.

On last Monday night at the regular monthly council meeting, Mr. Lynch felt called on to defend the Street Committee, and in his defence he showed that in addition to the errors made by the engineering department in giving the wrong grades in Fairmount, which errors cost the city so much in refilling where excessive grading had been done—



in addition to this error Mr. Lynch stated that the city would not have had to pay the big damage claims now pending and not yet adjusted, caused by injury done by the city to property fronts in the Fairmount section, if Mr. Bowling had acted according to law and settled this matter by agreement with property holders before the grading was done. It seems that the law requires that the engineer enter into agreement with property owners as to damages to be paid for property injured before the work is ordered so that the city may not go it blind and find themselves liable for heavy charges due to the fact that the city is at the mercy of the property holders if the matter is not settled beforehand.

It thus appears that Mr. Bowling is not only responsible for the expensive errors in grading, which the poor tax payer has to pay, but is also responsible for the large damage suits which the city must pay because he, Mr. Bowling, did not proceed according to law.

In addition to this Mr. Bowling made the biggest bust of all in the Fairmount affair when he ordered the streets to be graded down even to the corrected levels which are now the established street levels for this section. It was altogether unnecessary and expensive in that less grading would have made a ten times better job.

The city council is so unwieldy and there is such conflict of responsibility between the council and the committees and the departments that it would be next to impossible to get that body to get a new engineer.

There is no responsible head to the thing.

It was originally intended that the mayor should be responsible for all the affairs of the city to the extent of having each department directly responsible to him, but who ever dreamed of mayor Richardson looking into or having any weight in determining the duties of the city engineer.

The whole councilmanic system is a mess and it blunders on and repeats its own blunders and by the nature of its constitution it is physically unable to redeem itself.

Meantime Bowling blunders on and the people pay the bill.

## Times-Dispatch Tommy Rot.---Hypocrisy.

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(Continued from 4th page.)

This is union with a vengeance but since it don't bother The Times-Dispatch's income they have nothing to say in opposition.

Now what does this mean? It means that The Times-Dispatch don't give a continental dam for the bugaboo of a theory concerning church and state, but does care a tremendous lot whether its editors and owners may be guilty of the moral crime of debauching the life of Richmond by having whiskey legally sold from the bars of the clubs to which they belong, and yet escape being called guilty of a legal crime by continuing the present nefarious union of the liquor traffic and the state.

Altho the Anti-Saloon League has never sanctioned any such thing as a union of church and state The Idea would prefer the rankest kind of a union between church and state to the present nefarious union, which actually exists to the corrupting of all the functions of the state, between the base saloon and the state, and this same Times-Dispatch desires this union on the part of the state with the saloon, as it shows by advocating license, rather than an imaginary union of the state and the church.

By their own words they admit that when they are called on to choose this day whom they will serve they prefer that their government make a union with the saloon and the devil, rather than make any union with the Church and God.

The Times-Dispatch is serving the devil when it pretends to be looking after the interests of the church while at the same time it looks over the list of its advertisers and says:—"It will hurt business, especially OUR business with the saloon folks."

"Ye can not serve God and mammon." You can't look after the church and the bar room business at the same time.

In the first place, the Anti-Saloon League is not the church.

In the second place, it has all along kept out of partizan politics; and,

In the third place, it has no desire to and never will desire to form any union between itself or the church and the state.

The papers are fretting themselves over the so-called withdrawal of the Anti-Saloon from the Democratic party.

The Anti-Saloon never was in and never will be in the Democratic or any other party, any more than the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals is in the Socialist or Republican or Populist or Democratic or Labor Party.

There are Republicans and Democrats and Socialists and independent voters in the Anti-Saloon League and they are going to keep on fighting the evils of the union between the state and the saloon and vote for clean, decent, moral men who will give the people a square, democratic chance to decide their own moral questions until they get a decent legislature that mon't sell out to the whiskey men as the last legislature did, and until Virginia has put this hellish corruptor of the state, the saloon, out of existence forever. AND THE NEXT LEGISLATURE IS THE ONE THAT IS GOING TO DO IT.

## Politicians in the Richmond Churches

---

It is extremely amazing to read this Times-Dispatch discussions on the church losing "its high spiritual function", and its tearful remark, "When the church gets into politics, politics will get into the church," when the real truth of the matter is that here in the large Richmond churches the politicians have gotten into the churches just to keep the churches from doing anything towards purifying the politics of Richmond and that is Richmond's greatest trouble today, the politicians run Richmond churches and in some notable cases use their church affiliations to help build up a crooked political machine to keep them in office.

There is not a political crook that we know of in Richmond that is not a good(?) church member and most of them hold offices in the churches and church societies.

The business of the church is to save the world, politics and the state included.

You know they intimated to Jesus that He must not talk to the fallen woman because He might be contaminated, altho He said He came to call sinners, not the righteous, to repentance.

If there is anything wrong with our laws that's exactly where the church belongs and if the church is to keep away from helping the world through its laws then the sooner the church dies the better, for the good that don't reach to the state is no good.

Let the crooks run the churches and tell the preachers what to say and what not to say and The Time-Dispatch offers no protest, but let the preachers breathe a word about the evils of government and The Times-Dispatch thows up its editorial hands in holy horror. Meantime the people say "We'll take a hand in this matter next election day."

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## Why It Costs So Much.

### Watered Stock Holders Get It.

---

Here is the clearest cut, most definite, truthful statement of the high cost of living that we have seen printed. Study it a moment and you will see that it is absolutely correct. It is from the Denver Daily Express:

In a word. If \$70,000,000,000 has been artificially added to the capitalization of the nation's industries, then to earn 5 per cent, on this fiction somebody must pay \$3,500,000,000 per year more than things are worth.

That's added to the cost of living, isn't it?

That means about ten millions a day to start with.

So don't let them get you to cussing the farmer, nor the butcher, nor the housewife, nor yourself.—Exchange



CANADA carries papers at one-fourth cent a pound and makes nearly a MILLION DOLLARS a year profit on its postal system. Our government of grafters charges ONE CENT a pound—four times as much—and loses \$17,000,000 a year! Do you see the point?—Ex.

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THERE seems to be a job for every man so soon as he gets elected to the legislature or city council.—Ex.

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## Money Given Away

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### Prizes for Boys. Four Different Contests.

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A few weeks ago The Idea gave away prizes to the twelve boys selling the largest number of Ideas in the December-January prize contest. Only ten prizes were offered but so many of the boys did well that twelve were given away.

The first prize, a handsome fountain pen, was won by Joseph Anderson.

The eleven additional prizes were first quality two blade pocket knives.

If you can't stick to it long enough to get a two month's prize, why not get busy today and earn a dollar or two besides an extra dollar.

### HERE'S YOUR CHANCE, BOYS

This month, April, The Idea will give away in addition to the regular two-monthly prizes a suitable prize to every boy who sells as many as twenty copies of The Idea in each of the five Saturdays in that month. By this means you can get a prize even if the other fellow does beat you selling. All you have got to do is to sell twenty Ideas each Saturday in April.

## "FOR MEN ONLY"

We wish to announce to our many customers that we are now located in our store at No. 618 East Main St., and are fully equipped to put your OLD DULL SAFETY RAZOR BLADES in perfect condition, "while you wait" for 30c. per dozen. We also GRIND RAZORS, SCISSORS, CARVING AND POCKET KNIVES, and any kind of a sharp edge tool, and we absolutely guarantee our work to please you in every respect. Give us a trial and we will prove to you and convince you that we are experts in this line of work.

Razors Honed And Set 15c. Each.  
Mail Orders Will Receive Prompt Attention.

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618 EAST MAIN STREET.

# A. H. EWING

**CEMENT PAVING  
CONTRACTOR**



62 NORTH LOMBARDY STREET

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Estimates cheerfully given on Sidewalk  
Paving, Halls, Vestibules, Basements, &c.

The Editor has known Mr. Ewing personally for the last twenty years, and he takes pleasure in stating that his reputation for first-class work and straight forward, satisfactory dealing is unexcelled.

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Gold Medal Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	Winner Condensed Milk, per can . . . . .	11
Obelisk Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	3 Large Cans Uncle Ned Tomatoes . . . . .	28
Dunlop Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	6 Bars Octagon Soap . . . . .	25
Clover Leaf Flour, per bag . . . . .	44	Good Mackerel . . . . .	05
Arbuckle Coffee, per lb. . . . .	17	Large Irish Potatoes, per peck . . . . .	25
Church-Hill Pride Coffee, per lb. . . . .	17	Old Virginia Herring Roe, per can . . . . .	10
PURITY BUTTERINE, per lb. . . . .	23	Smoked Shoulder, per lb. . . . .	14
Good Lard, per lb. . . . .	15		
Round Beef Steak, per lb. . . . .	15		
Pork Steak, per lb. . . . .	18		

### SPECIAL

A Good Flour at 43c. per bag.

All Goods not mentioned are in line with our low prices.

# LOOK BOYS!



## MANY PRIZES

Besides the Prizes for Selling the Greatest Number of  
Copies, The Idea will give a Prize to every  
boy who Sells Copies each week in April.

## EVERY BOY CAN WIN

WEEKLY **5c** THE COPY

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

April 16, 1910

No. 16

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## Election Number

Pollock,

Mills,

Other Warm Subjects

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FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

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Being some sermonettes published weekly for the common good at  
Richmond, Va., by Adon A. Yoder, editor, publisher and printer  
1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Virginia.



# Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure, 'Phone Monroe 2708,

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OPTICIAN

7th AND MAIN STS.

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Flavorings and Fine Perfumery Extracts.

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200 E. MARSHALL ST.

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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

APRIL 16, 1910

No. 16

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

904 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## *How the Political Boss Works*

*Strong Mentally--Feeble Morally*

*Backed by Public Service Corporations  
And Liquor Interests*

THE business men generally leave the management of party machinery to the grafting elements, the gambling elements and the criminal elements. When a special interest man wishes to accomplish anything in the way of securing certain laws or of obtaining the nomination of any person, the general custom is to send for one of the bosses and make arrangements through him upon a business

basis of so much money. These bosses are usually men of strong mentality but of feeble morality. They commonly have behind them the public service corporation interests and the liquor interests. They are the connecting link between the criminal rich and the criminal poor. They serve the rich by obtaining franchises for them and by securing them privileges in the way of permission to violate law. They serve the poor by going on their bonds when arrested, by procuring employment for them, and by acts of charity.

The above paragraph was written by Governor Folk, of Missouri, and he had never known of the political bossism of Richmond, and yet it sounds as tho he were writing about the investigations of corruption here when Manning and Leaman and Saunders confessed to being the tools of The Bell Telephone Company, for money, to get certain legislation through the council.

It is well known that some of the slickest and crookedest politicians Richmond has ever known have gained office "by acts of charity" and by procuring employment for the poor, as they find that a cheap method of buying votes. Leaman was active in going bond for criminals, such as the Molloy woman; Manning through the police force managed the liquor interests, and all three, Saunders, Manning and Leaman "served the rich by obtaining franchises for them." Yes, Richmond is just as crooked politically as Pittsburg or Albany or Philadelphia or San Francisco or New York or St. Louis. The only difference is that when political corruptionists are exposed here the papers which in other cities are the means of purifying the government are here used to white-wash the whole affair and help put in jail the one that exposes the crooks, by a campaign of lies, deceiving the people into thinking that the crooks are saints and the man that exposes them a devilish sinner.

If The Idea had undertaken a campaign "for the public good" and not exposed such men as Saunders and Leaman and Manning and Pollock and Mills and not criticized Justice John and the mayor and the city engineer, then indeed would it be right to suppose that there was some ulterior

motive but no one should believe that the motive was wrong simply because some of the crooks had done an injury to one who had loaned money to the paper especially since *The Idea* had been exposing exactly the same crooked methods three years before it ever borrowed the money in question or even heard of the lender.

Ex-Gov. Folk writes further in the *Saturday Evening Post* of the composition of political party committees like the one here dominated by crooks. He says "The political committees in populous centres are made up in most part of representatives of special interests. Nearly every man is there not as the agent of the party to do what he can for the public but as the agent of SPECIAL INTEREST AGAINST THE PUBLIC.

The different party committeemen are generally known as belonging to this or that boss or special interest. They are merely dummies for the seekers of privilege. Such a thing as their having minds of their own is practically unheard of.

The immediate task, therefore, in municipal government is to wipe away so far as possible the barriers to the rule of the people imposed by special interests."

## *Government by Commission*

### *Is the Remedy, Says Folk.*

"The best plan that has been devised thus far is the commission form of government. Under this plan a certain number of commissioners—say five—are elected, and the entire control of the city is in their hands. They constitute the law-making body, appoint the other officials and have direction of the law-enforcing power. The commission plan of city government is a simplified form of government, and the simpler government can be made the more government for the people there will be. The more complicated government can be made, the less government for the people there will be and the more government for special interests. The above-mentioned plan reduces the number of elective officers. Those who have thought most on the subject of government have come to the conclusion that there are too many officers elected. When there are a large number of names



on the ballot the average voter probably only knows one or two of them and must vote blindly as to the rest. Special interests, however, keep men employed to look after these matters for them, and they are always fully advised as to the attitude and possibilities of every candidate, no matter how many candidates there may be. So the fewer officers to be elected the more they will represent the will of the people, and the larger the number of officers to be elected the less they will represent the people, and the more they will be the result of trade on the part of special interest. Where the commission plan of government has been tried it has been found most satisfactory. In the city of Des Moines they have been operating under this idea for more than a year, with great saving to the taxpayers and improvement in the civic conditions. No one can be in that city long without being told of the delight of the citizens with their system. The same is true of Galveston and of Kansas City. Under this plan political parties are dispensed with."

"If government of the people is to survive, it must be saved by the efforts of the patriotic citizens who want nothing for themselves save the advantages that accrue from the general public weal. If the people learn to appreciate this, learn to know the dangers that threaten our future, and learn the strength that rests with the voters, they can take the government of city, state and nation in their own hands whenever they wish to do so.

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## Petersburg Subscribers

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Since our Petersburg subscribers have had so much trouble in getting their papers, we would suggest that they might do well to send a dollar for a six months subscription which will be mailed direct each week. This is the cheapest and surest way to get *The Idea*. Same price everywhere in the U. S. \$2.00 a year or \$1.00 for six months.

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JUDGING by what it will buy, it looks like the republicans have given us a fifty cent dollar.—Ex.

# THE ELECTION

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## Jefferson Ward and Mills

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For the Board of Aldermen the two old members, Adams and Melton, are both up for re-election and they are both machine men, though one of them, Melton, don't amount to much, the only thing we ever saw him do being to voice the wish of the machine in nominating in the Board of Aldermen W. E. Griggs to try the editor the same night that Morgan R. Mills nominated the same Griggs in the joint session. We notice city employees canvassing for Melton. This is a bad sign.

The third aspirant for the board, Mr. T. J. Moody, is said to be an old confederate soldier and a merchant with property interests on Church Hill. We learn the ring is against him and that must mean he is a good man. He certainly can be no worse than the present ring crowd.

### Scratch Mills

Of the aspirants for the council in Jefferson only two old members are worthy of returning, they are Lynch and Hirshburg.

Fairmount should be represented by Jeter and of the rest E. C. Davidson seems to be the most able and fit.

By all means scratch Mills and do not let the vote be so divided that the ring can put him in. Vote for Hirshburg, Davidson, Jeter, Lynch and one other.

(Continued on 12th page)

## *Councilman and the Traction Company*

---

Mr. Bliley got up in the council at the last meeting and spoke for the Passenger and Power Company in reference to giving them certain streets in the West End which they have already blocked and practically confiscated.

Mr. Bliley, who is councilman from Monroe Ward, said that in as much as the Car Co. was spending so much money in that section, "We owe them some consideration", as if those people who have no money to invest should have no consideration at the hands of the council.

We do not doubt that many councilmen do owe the Power Co. some consideration, but it is a dead sure thing that the people of Richmond do not owe anything to the Car Co.

We have given away to them already franchises worth millions of dollars and have nothing in return and now they are already asking for a continuation of their franchises, when we ought to sell these franchises at a reasonable sum to these car companies and get some returns for these valuable considerations.

This Car Company certainly must have had some councilmen under obligation to them, when it is seen how Gilbert Pollock succeeded in railroading their bill through the council last Monday night.

## *Who Said Clyde Saunders Was Out of Politics?*

---

We are informed that the candidates for city offices who desired to get the names of voters in their wards have been unable to secure same from the registrars or from the Clerk of the court, but are being told that Mr. Clyde Saunders has not yet printed the lists and if one desires to get them he must go and ask Mr. Saunders for them.

Thus Mr. Saunders' power in Richmond politics can be seen.

One must ask a favor of Clyde before he can stand any show of winning, because no candidate can be successful and fail to put himself before the voters of his ward.

We also notice in the papers of Saturday last that Chairman, Miles M. Martin and Clyde W. Saunders "were present in Mr. Goode's office when the noon hour struck, waiting to see whether any new men entered at the eleventh hour", for the race for council and the board of Aldermen.

Clyde is still a power in city politics, and nothing but a change of form of government will ever put him out.

## *Politics*

### *Madison Ward, Gilbert Pollock.*

Since there is no contest in the Board of Aldermen for Madison Ward the voters are fortunate in having the fight singled down and confined to the Common Council and the issue clearly defined and free from complications.

The fight is simply between the seven candidates offering in the Common Council and five are to be elected. Of these seven, four are present members, Mr. Barber alone of the present council not offering for re-election. Of course those who have the city's interest at heart will scratch Pollock and since Mr. Burke seems to be largely a figure head, taking no aggressive part in legislation, and not always voting right when he is present, it would be wise for the citizens to scratch these two and thus not waste their powder by dividing their allegiance between all the candidates.

By all means beat Pollock.

We need not enumerate to the voters of Madison Ward the political sins of Mr. Pollock.

Suffice it to say that we can not point to a man in the whole council who has done more to help appoint bad men and to help enact



such ordinances as would be against the interest of the people and in favor of the interests of the few who enjoy his favor. He is a man of influence in the council for two reasons the one is his ability and social qualities which have entirely too much weight in so large a council and the other is his utter lack of regard for the duties of his position. He is in office for Pollock's interest and not for the interest of the citizens of Madison Ward nor for the citizens of Richmond at large.

## Out for Political Blood

AND AINT MILLS GOING SOME?



The Idea After Two More Scalps

# Who Owns the Albemarle?

## See Next Week's Idea About Gambling Houses

This agreement made this twelfth day of August 1908, by and between Clyde W. Saunders, A. T. Griffith and J. W. Salomon, parties of the first part, and A. H. Johnson and Robert Whittet, Jr., parties of the second part, all of Richmond, Virginia.

WITNESSETH: The said parties of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of Twenty Four Hundred Dollars agree to sell and convey to the said parties of the second part, one hundred and fifty shares of the capital stock of the Albemarle Club of the City of Richmond, Va.

The said parties of the first part hereby acknowledge the receipt of One Thousand Dollars, to them in hand paid by the said parties of the second part, as the first payment on account of this agreement and the said parties of the second part agree to pay the remainder of Fourteen Hundred Dollars, as follows, viz.:

One note for Fourteen Hundred Dollars, dated August 12th 1908, at three months, drawn by A. H. Johnson to his own order and endorsed by him and Robert Whittet, Jr..

It is further agreed that in event of default in the payment of the above described note, the said parties of the first part may without process of law take possession of said stock.

It is further agreed that the One Hundred and Fifty Shares of Stock above described shall remain in the custody of Clyde W. Saunders, as Trustee, until the above described note is fully paid.

WITNESS the following Signatures and Seals:-

Clyde W. Saunders (SEAL)  
A. T. Griffith (SEAL)  
J. W. Salomon (SEAL)  
A. H. Johnson (SEAL)  
R. Whittet Jr. (SEAL)

# *Pollard, Mills, Pollock*

## *And the Three Pie Committees*

---

The three most important committees of the city council are:—

- (1) The Finance Committee,
- (2) The Water Committee,
- (3) The Street Committee.

These are the three pie committees of the council, and membership on these committees is most sought after by those most anxious to “serve the people.”

The dominance of the finance committee is a most valuable asset and would be worth a fortune to an unprincipled man.

This committee is presided over by Real Estate Agent, H. R. Pollard, Jr., and Morgan Mills is an influential member. W. H. Adams and Barton Grundy are also members. This committee holds its sessions in secret and most of its work is done by sub-committees, which meet when and where they like.

The second committee is the Water Committee, which is valuable because it is the means of building up a powerful political machine, in that this committee has to employ so many hands for the water department and all of these hands are walking delegates for Morgan R. Mills, the chairman and dominant influence on this committee.

The third committee is the Street Committee, which is in charge of the employment of the large force of street hands, and Mr. G. K. Pollock is Sub-chairman and dominant influence in the common council, while W. H. Adams of the Aldermen is chairman, and Grundy and Whittet and Bliley are members.

Now when any matter pertaining to these departments comes up in either branch of the council it is referred to one of these committees and acted on there.

After going to committee, however, of which there are about twelve members, the matter is usually referred to either a selected sub-committee or if it pertains to a ward, it is referred to a "Ward" committee, and just here is where the evil of the ward system comes in, and where the crooked ward politician comes in.

Now, these little sub-committees are all powerful, simply by common consent, because it is impossible to do the enormous amount of work of the council either in the full committees or on the floor of the council for they have only one regular meeting each month, and these sub-committees meet anywhen, anyhow, anywhere to suit themselves and it generally suits them to get together for business down on Main street.

### *Politicians' Headquarters*

Now there are three places on Main street which are headquarters for the politicians.

One of these places is the office of Morgan Mills in the Chamber of Commerce, where Mr. Mills conducts—well, we'd be glad if any one would tell us exactly what Mr. Mills does conduct or do except engage in politics, (we notice he has the contract to furnish steel girders for the fictitious bridge to Church Hill, which a company which has violated its contract, is supposed to be going to build. We notice this company has enough influence in the council not to have to forfeit its bond.)

Well, in this office of Morgan R. Mills, away from the gaze of the public, much city business is transacted and then the council when called on to vote is treated to a grand stand speech by the earnest and silver-tongued Mills, who somehow or other gets the council to vote his way.

The second political stamping ground is at Pollard's news store on Main street, where politicians of all stripes and hues and shades may be seen taking a social drink and fixing up their interests.

The third place is Crenshaw's Cigar Stand on the corner of 11th and Main.



Here and at Pollard's the clans gather and Pollard and Adams and other councilmen discuss city finances and improvements with Saunders and Manning and Leaman, whose influence with councilmen is worth thousands of dollars.

So if one really wants to know who runs Richmond he must observe not council meetings, oh, no! they are simply for the public, and the public has nothing to do with the real running of Richmond, —he must note the ward heeler and the political boss and the ambitious politician at their work on Main street from whence Richmond is steered by men whose chief asset is politics and whose services to the party are valued at thousands of dollars annually.

## THE ELECTION

(Continued from 5th page)

### HENRY WARD---A SORRY LOT

Henry Ward has such a sorry lot for council that it hardly matters whether one votes or not in that ward.

### LEE WARD

In the council Pollard should be scratched, Cutchins and Ratcliffe should be returned.

### MADISON WARD

SCRATCH POLLOCK; Burke stands for the whiskey interests. Fuller works for The Home Brewing Co.

### CLAY WARD

In the aldermanic board Mitchell and Cottrell, both old members, should be returned.

In the council Umlauf and Richardson are two of the highest men in the whole city government, while Powers votes with the ring, and Glenn has none too good a record.

### MARSHALL WARD

J. R. Grimes, an old ringster and father-in-law of Manning, should be scratched for the aldermen.

It will be a job for the people to elect their five good men out of the eleven aspirants for council.

# *Mills Responsible for Manning*

## *Manning and Leaman, Friends.*

If one should attend police court and be careful to notice what goes on in the halls and rooms adjacent thereto he will find Messrs Manning and Leaman in close conference as they are apparently bosom companions. Just the other day the writer almost ran into these two who were walking arm and arm in the basement of the city hall.

Mr. Manning testified on the stand that Leaman had gone on Manning's bond as he did at the time Manning was indicted for complicity in the election frauds and that he, Manning, had been on the bond of Leaman. Now a few weeks ago we showed that Mr. Leaman had gone on the bond of the Molloy woman.

In the telephone graft investigation which was so neatly whitewashed by the council with the aid of the daily papers here,—Leaman testified as follows:—

Page 20.

Question—You were asked if you went on any trips, and you said oh no. You were paid here.

Answer—I thought he meant did I get any money here, or in New York. You see MY FRIEND MANNING was ahead of me; He was in New York many times.

Page 285.

Question—What do you mean by your friends getting the best of you?

Answer—MY FRIENDS MR. MANNING, Mr. Saunders, and so on.

Question—They got more than you did?

Answer—By the papers.

Question—That is the regretful part of it, I suppose?

Answer—Yes, sir.

These incidents serve to show how intimate Leaman, Manning and Saunders were and to show how Mr. Mills who nominated Mr. Manning for office is thus indirectly connected with the ring which does not care whether it violates the law or not. The way to get at the evil in the police department and the lax law-enforcement is to put out of office such men as Mills who are responsible for such men as Manning being in office. Don't try to doctor the effect. Doctor the cause.

The citizens of Jefferson ward owe it to the people of Richmond to put Mr. Mills on the shelf at the election next week.

---

WHEN man objects to being trampled on the masters say he is dangerous to society.—Ex.

---

W. G. MAHONE

GROCER AND FEED DEALER

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## Idea Office Moved

New Quarters in Ford Hotel. Two Blocks from  
Former Location  
No. 1106 Capitol Street

The Idea has moved two blocks down Capitol Street into the old Ford Hotel Building.

The publisher will be glad to meet his friends and all the friends of the cause of good government in the new location, No. 1106 Capitol Street.

Please notify all carriers of the change.

Subscribe to The Idea today; \$1.00 for six months, \$2.00 a year. Send subscription and any complaints to Idea office, 1106 Capitol St.

THIS IS TO SAY TO YOU

THAT

**THE IDEA PRINT SHOP**

Will be glad to do all or a part of your  
Printing in an up-to-date manner and at a

**REASONABLE COST**

**CALL UP MONROE 2708**

And let us call on you with prices.

**ADON A. YODER**



# Forsaken.

---

The day is done ; The night begun ;  
The stars have lit them one by one  
In feeble mock'ry of the Sun.

All nature's still ; all's quiet, till  
The melancholy whippoorwill  
Sends forth his wail of omen ill.

At night's behest, each to his nest,  
All birds have flown away to rest  
Save him of all birds most unblest.

The day is done ; The night begun ;  
The Moon has risen where the Sun  
Thelve hours before his race had run.

And I am night : But ne'er by light  
Of moon or star is my soul bright,  
For clouds of darkness make it blight.

Yes! night am I ; But the wild cry  
E'en of whippoorwill near by  
Nor lightnings flash across the sky,

My lids ne'er wake, mine ears ne'er shake,  
For I am ripe for Death to take  
And I await him and his Lake.

Sun of my day! Light of my way!  
My moon! My stars! My brightest ray!  
My music sweet! Thou hast said "nay."

My day is done ; My night begun ;  
My stars have hid them one by one  
In feeble mock'ry of the Sun.

LYNERADO.

## "FOR MEN ONLY"

We wish to announce to our many customers that we are now located in our store at No. 618 East Main St., and are fully equipped to put your OLD DULL SAFETY RAZOR BLADES in perfect condition, "while you wait" for 30c. per dozen. We also GRIND RAZORS, SCISSORS, CARVING AND POCKET KNIVES, and any kind of a sharp edge tool, and we absolutely guarantee our work to please you in every respect. Give us a trial and we will prove to you and convince you that we are experts in this line of work.

---

Razors Honed And Set 15c. Each.

Mail Orders Will Receive Prompt Attention.

---

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618 EAST MAIN STREET.

# A. H. EWING

**CEMENT PAVING  
CONTRACTOR**



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PHONE 1621

RICHMOND, VA.

Estimates cheerfully given on Sidewalk  
Paving, Halls, Vestibules, Basements, &c.

---

The Editor has known Mr. Ewing personally for the last twenty years, and he takes pleasure in stating that his reputation for first-class work and straight forward, satisfactory dealing is unexcelled.

# WEEKLY PRICE LIST

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Clover Leaf Flour, per bag . . . . 44	Good Mackerel . . . . 05
Arbuckle Coffee, per lb. . . . 17	Large Irish Potatoes, per peck . . 25
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PURITY BUTTERINE, per lb. 23	Smoked Shoulder, per lb. . . . 14
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All Goods not mentioned are in line with our low prices.

# LOOK BOYS!



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Besides the Prizes for Selling the Greatest Number of  
Copies, The Idea will give a Prize to every  
boy who Sells 20 Copies each week in April.

EVERY BOY CAN WIN

WEEKLY **5c** THE COPY

# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

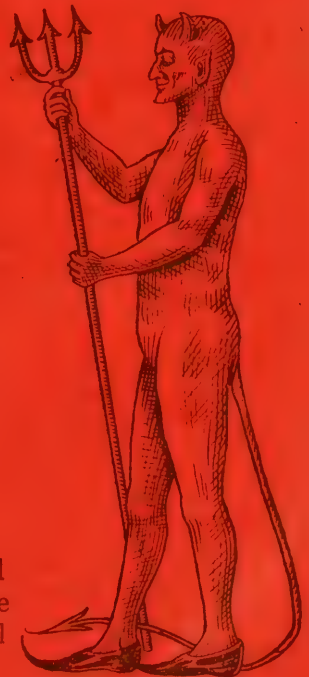
Vol. IV

April 23, 1910

No. 17



This little magazine is not afraid  
of the Devil himself. Don't the  
little Red thing beat the Devil  
anyhow?



*Adon A. Yoder*

FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

Being some sermonettes published weekly for the common good at  
Richmond, Va., by Adon A. Yoder, editor, publisher and printer  
1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Virginia.



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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

APRIL 23, 1910

No. 17

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## *Office Holders Owners of Gambling House*

### *The Albemarle Club*

---

It has been a matter of common knowledge that the Albemarle Club was nothing but a high class gambling joint and drinking place.

Just the other day a prominent young business man was asked if he knew anything about the Albemarle Club and his reply was just what nine out of ten of the people who keep posted know, that it was a gambling joint.

Now, one naturally wonders why this place has enjoyed freedom from molestation at the hands of the police, when they know very well, not only the reputation of the place, but from what we know of happenings of the past, the very character of the place itself.

## THE IDEA

Now if you will look on page 13 and see who did own it and who they sold it to it will be readily understood why it has not been broken up. Clyde Saunders, Dem. City Committee Chairman, and Andy Griffith, Policy King and bar-keeper, were partners in the ownership, as they are now in the race horse deal. They sold to Ro. Whittet, Jr. and A. H. Johnson, a gambler from Lynchburg.

Rob't. Whittet was made President, and Ruskell, Sergeant-at-Arms of the council, was made Ser'ty., tho Johnson put up the money, as is shown by checks and information in our possession.

Below we print two pages from a book kept by Johnson showing who played, how much they put up and what they won or lost, in a poker game.

Dunken 25, W. 70.00	Johnson 50, 100, W. 11.00
Mules 25, 50, W. 1.00	Breil 25, 50, W. 6.50
Jenkins 25, 50, 75, 100, L. 79.70	West 50, 100, W. 40.00
Davis 25, 50, 75, L. 79.00	Burnett 25, L. 8.00
Crawford 25, 50, 100, W. 12.00	J. and M. 25,
Leaman 25, W. 40.00	Coffman 25, 50, W. 2.00
Ruskell 25, 50, 55, 100, L. 94.00	Green 25, 50, L. 35.50
Dykes 25, W. 69.00	Dabney 25, W. 30.00
Medley 25, L. 23.70	Sampson 25, W. 16
	Ruskell 25, W. 73.50
	Pollock 25, W. 46.00
	Krug 25, 50, 75, L. 43.50
	Weaver 20, 25.50
	Griffith 25, 50, L. 34.50
	Nash 25
	Battle 20

This is so warm that we will save the rest for another time.

---

**T**ELL you what you do. Go to the phone right now and call up Monroe 2708 and say, "Come by my place of business some time in passing, I may have some printing for you." Do it right now. You won't regret it. There's the phone right there. Don't you see it? We have some new type; just the thing for business stationery. The Very Idea, Phone Monroe 2708.

# Where Are They?

---

Tune, Highland Laddie.

Where and oh! where has the "I Dare"—"I Swear" gone?

Tell me, Daisy, truly tell,

Have the "Yodeler" and "Facts" gone to Hades?

The "I DARE" BURLESQUE, THE YODELER AND FACTS are three little publications which have appeared in the past twelve months to champion the cause of the whiskey interests and crooked politicians, but the public of Richmond would not have them, so they all died after one or two issues each, while The Idea alone is left to tell the story of their demise. Some how or other the people are anxious to hear the truth and will read this paper because they know that it champions the cause of the people against the elements of greed and oppression and corruption in the community.

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## The Boy Problem

---

The newsboy problem in the Summer is always a big one because the boys long to play and therefore cannot always be relied on to bring the paper when it is wanted. They will play ball and we don't blame them.

Just last week some of the best supporters of the paper had to go out and find a copy at the newsstands because the boys did not appear with their copy.

We therefore suggest that you send us today your subscription, \$2.00 for a year or \$1.00 for six months, and if you send us five subscribers we will give you \$2.00 for the work. How is that for a money making proposition?

---

Send us your ad. today. The people read Idea ads. Also send us your printing. Help the good work along.



## Petersburg Boys Prize

---

Get The Idea at The Brandon Book Company's in Petersburg.

The Idea will give to the Petersburg boy who sells the most Ideas in April, beginning this week, April 23rd, a handsome Stag Handle pocket knife, which will be on exhibition in the Brandon Book Store windows, Sycamore Street.

---

### *"Victories of Peace."*

---

The editor is glad to notice that the old Philologian Literary Society of Richmond College, of which he had the honor to be an officer some time in the last century, has again carried off the Orator's Medal in the annual contest between the Philologian and Mu Sigma Rho Societies.

The "Victories of Peace" was the subject of the winning oration and we rejoice to note that such a subject was chosen by the best orator of Richmond College.

The difference between Peace and War is the difference between Heaven and Hell, and as Jesus was an infinitely greater man than Napoleon so it takes an infinitely greater amount of manhood and courage and fidelity and bravery to fight the world's great battles of peace than to fight the battles of war.

A hog, a brute, a devil can be brave in physical warfare, but only a man,—a godly man,—can fight the battles of peace, where man fights alone and often against his loved ones for the great cause of right, and where he is misunderstood and often slain and the laurels come only after death and therefore faith alone in the eternal justice and love of right of divinity makes a man stand firm in such a conflict.

Many men can lead a charge on the field of carnage, but few there be who are able to storm hell intrenched in church and state and society, and having done all are able to stand.

# False Prophets

---

**W**HEN The Idea began publication last June, various and sundry enemies of the right in the shape of the champions of the evils which this paper attacks immediately began to knock us by saying that The Idea would not last six weeks. Six weeks rolled by and The Idea was stronger than before and then the anvil chorus gave us six months and finally six months of usefulness passed by and The Idea still lived and was booming more than before. Then the knockers said that since the paper would not die of itself, they would kill it anyhow by breaking the editor by court proceedings and by punishing him with jail sentences and assaults and intimidation of his advertisers and dirty work of harrassing his news boys and publishing false reports concerning his past and present doings and by a campaign of villification and trickery and lying.

Now this is to say that in spite of all these works of the Devil and his allies this paper is still alive and has a proposition to make to YOU.

When the paper began we made a bid for subscriptions but realizing that our constituency was not acquainted with the writer and therefore had no assurance that the paper would live, that campaign was abandoned for the time, until we could become fully established and prove not only our right to live, but that The Idea would live. Now after almost a year's time we present our claims again to the reading public and solicit your subscriptions. The Idea has a great work before it and in order that you may keep posted with the movement for better conditions it will be well to keep up with this publication.

In view of the difficulty of getting the boys to deliver regularly we call your attention to page 12 on which we make an offer of The Idea for less than four cents a copy.

# A Walk Through Mayo Street

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## Names Removed from Doors

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## Indecent Exhibits and Proposals from Windows

---

OUR attention has recently been called to the many improvements in the condition of affairs in Mayo Street. We were told that the police department, stirred up by the exposures of The Idea, had made some more stringent rules for these women of the mid-night world.

Last June when The Idea began its work, this section was a veritable hell on earth, even in the day, for women thinly clad would openly solicit men on the street in the presence of the police. For a while last Fall we noticed this practice had been checked and shades were placed at all the windows.

On last Monday afternoon we went through Mayo Street again, and though the shades were at the windows still, these common women have gone back to their practice of soliciting men from the windows, as formerly. On the east side of Mayo, between Broad and Grace, a scarlet woman openly invited the writer to enter. Down nearer Main, a yellow girl stood in the porch way and called out sickly terms of endearment to the passersby.

Between Grace and Franklin, a young girl was hanging out of a window indecently exposing her breasts below the

danger line for the benefit of her trade in vice, and such exposure under such circumstances could not but be a tremendous temptation to any man who is a man. We found, as we had been told, that the names had been removed from the transoms and doors, where they had been placed to direct the way of the drunken patrons in search of their mistresses.

No longer were "Maggie and Rose" permitted to advertise their location. And the "Hartman" woman's sign was down, and "Polly" and "Emma's" names were to be seen no more.

After ten P. M. we went back.

On the north side of Broad, Anna Clarkson's place, which we wrote up some weeks back, was doing business as usual and the police knew all about it, tho Chris. Manning says it is not in the red light district. Entrance is had from the side street, and two neatly dressed white men were standing in the doorway of the negro woman's house.

Besides this being a notorious assignation house it is also a common whore house as well, and she keeps her white girls too. Soon a white girl opened the door and after a few words of inquiry invited the men to go up "to the front parlor."

If the police department were not protecting this woman, she could easily be broken up.

Down on Mayo a fearful rough house was in progress and mere boys were vying with their elders in making the rounds of debauchery, all with the sanction and protection and fatherly approval of the police commissioners. Enough! Enough! When will the laws of the commonwealth of Virginia be enforced in the ancient capital, the home of the blue-blood aristocracy of the Old Dominion?

---

There are just two periods in a man's life, when he don't understand women; Before and after marriage. — Selected.

---

Subscribe to The Idea today; \$1.00 for six months, \$2.00 a year. Send subscription and any complaints to Idea office, 1106 Capitol St.



# Some Hot Talk

## The Spineless, Sexless Press.

### For Men

THE other day, a friend of ours said to us, "Why don't you say something nice about somebody sometimes. Pick out some of the good men in office and compliment them." And our reply was that The Idea was called into being simply because the papers were doing nothing but throwing bouquets and white washing, and that there was no need for another paper to do that work, the field was overcrowded already, and if these papers had been doing the disagreeable duty which they owed to the people this paper never would have been born.

They, like the selfish beings that they are, have undertaken only the pleasant work and have neglected the work of scouring and cleaning and carrying out of the slops of the city for the more agreeable work of entertaining the company and flattering their masters, thus retaining their position as servants, tho the real work of their position is entirely neglected. The work of scouring and cleaning, which they have dodged, is so burdensome that we have no time for soft words. When the house is garnished and swept, we may find time to throw a few bouquets, meanwhile we will leave this feminine occupation to the spineless, nerveless, sexless, effeminate, caskareted, castrated, de(y)odorized papers which might lose a subscription if they criticised a cook.

We are not in competition with them; ours is a man's work and sometimes more than a man can stand alone.

Men of Richmond! will you help or will you continue to be afflicted with female troubles?

We rejoice that some are arousing. How about you?

# Smutty Talk

---

THE black ink we use in printing The Idea costs 10 cents a pound and the paper costs 4 1/2 cents a pound.

When we do a job of printing stationery for you, we use ink that costs 50 cents a pound, 5 times as much as this ink, and paper of a quality to suit, say 15 cents a pound bond. We tell you this so you won't judge the looks of our job work by the looks of the printing in The Idea, which is done with cheap materials. We use a different press, inks, care and everything else in doing work for YOU. Send us your job work today, or phone Monroe 2708.

---

## Police Commissioner

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### Using Black Jack

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The papers of last week tell us that police commissioners, Manning and Gordon, attempted to subdue a drunk on the street last Friday and that Mr. Douglas Gordon, Police Commissioner, used a black jack, and since Mr. Gordon has not denied the report, we take it for granted that it is true.

The proceedings of subduing of the prisoner are reported to have been disgraceful, and certain prominent citizens who were spectators found it necessary to sharply reprimand the conduct of police commissioners.

Now, the matter of using a black jack is worthy of attention. We are informed that it is unlawful, not simply to carry such a concealed weapon, but that the law so frowns on this practice that it is unlawful even to sell a black jack.

And yet we have a police commissioner who has taken an oath to support the laws of the state utterly disregarding

such laws, and in company with others, as is reported, using such a weapon as a black jack on a prisoner.

He would have had no right to carry this weapon even as a policeman and in spite of the purported decision of some attorney a police commissioner is not a policeman. Might as well say that a councilman is such an officer because he appoints the police commissioner, or say that the citizen is a policeman because he appoints the councilman who appoints the commissioner who appoints the police.

The legislature in making a police commission never dreamed of such officers going about with black jacks or any form of police authority, no more than it contemplated that the School Board should be regarded as teachers and draw any emoluments as such. The trouble is that police commissioners have no regard for the law and have such influence with those whose duty it is to enforce the law that they can violate the law with impunity and instruct the police to ignore the law, contrary both to their oaths and the sworn oaths of the policemen themselves, as commissioner Manning confessed the commissioners were doing in reference to the red light evil which they protect in their reign of crime in the city of Richmond.

---

## Small Pox Spreads

### From the Red Light District.

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Sunday's papers tell us of the spread of the dread disease of Small Pox all over the city from Locust Alley, the abode of crime and debauchery, permitted and practically legalized by the police commissioners contrary to law.

From this dirty, vile hole this vile disease threatens to fasten itself upon the community, all because these benevo-

lent commissioners thought these filthy creatures deserving of their care and solicitous protection.

Locust Alley, be it remembered, is a continuation of Mayo Street, and is a part of the boudy-house section, set apart by the police commissioners for the purposes of prostitution and lewdness, so Chris. Manning said in the libel case, tho there is no official record of such action.

---

## *The Health Department*

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### *Post "Measles" Card after Victims Are Well.*

---

Some time ago the writer's boys caught the measles. On the first visit by the physician it was reported to the health department and after about three weeks from the first breaking out the last case was over and the boys were out and at play. Then there appeared on the scene a representative of the Health Department, who said another would come later. In the course of the same day the second officer came and put up his "Measles" sign, altho the measles had gone. The sign read that the public was warned of the presence of measles. This was not true, for there was no measles. It further said that the victims should be kept in the place in which they were "isolated". Now it happened that the boys at that time were "isolated" (?) in the back yard.

We would not keep them there and of course the department does not mean what it says, it simply means that somebody must collect some fees for putting up the measley old sign.

---

We are going to get behind some Richmond Preachers soon. Better read The Idea.



# LOOK, BOYS AND GIRLS!

## Make \$2.00 for Few Minutes Work

If any person will send us 5 subscribers at \$2.00 a year, cash with subscription, we will give him \$2.00 for the work.

Or if you send us 5 one dollar, six months subscriptions, we will give you one dollar. Almost any live boy or girl or man or woman can go right in his own neighborhood and make a dollar or two in an hour's time. You just try it and see. The Idea will try to have cartoons in each issue and besides will always be interesting and helpful and stand for good government and good men in office and will expose the evil wherever it is found.

Your subscription will help much in the fight for better things and you will also find it a cheaper and safer way of getting The Idea. Subscribers have their papers mailed to them every Friday evening, and by subscribing the paper costs less than four cents a copy, making a saving of seventy cents during the year.

Cut out the coupon below and mail it today with the price and The Idea will commence with any number you desire. We have saved out several copies of all back numbers. Do it now.

1910

THE IDEA, 1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Enclosed find (\$<sup>2.00</sup><sub>1.00</sub>) for which please send The Idea for  
(<sup>ONE YEAR</sup>  
<sup>SIX MONTHS</sup>) to

Name.....

Street & No. ....

Post Office

## Who Owns the Albemarle?

This agreement made this twelfth day of August 1908, by and between Clyde W. Saunders, A. T. Griffith and J. W. Salomon, parties of the first part, and A. H. Johnson and Robert Whittet, Jr., parties of the second part, all of Richmond, Virginia.

WITNESSETH: The said parties of the first part for and in consideration of the sum of Twenty Four Hundred Dollars agree to sell and convey to the said parties of the second part, one hundred and fifty shares of the capital stock of the Albemarle Club of the City of Richmond, Va.

The said parties of the first part hereby acknowledge the receipt of One Thousand Dollars, to them in hand paid by the said parties of the second part, as the first payment on account of this agreement and the said parties of the second part agree to pay the remainder of Fourteen Hundred Dollars, as follows, viz.:

One note for Fourteen Hundred Dollars, dated August 12th 1908, at three months, drawn by A. H. Johnson to his own order and endorsed by him and Robert Whittet, Jr..

It is further agreed that in event of default in the payment of the above described note, the said parties of the first part may without process of law take possession of said stock.

It is further agreed that the One Hundred and Fifty Shares of Stock above described shall remain in the custody of Clyde W. Saunders, as Trustee, until the above described note is fully paid.

WITNESS the following Signatures and Seals:-

Clyde W. Saunders (SEAL)  
A. T. Griffith (SEAL)  
J. W. Salomon (SEAL)  
A. H. Johnson (SEAL)  
R. Whittet Jr. (SEAL)

# The Cowardly Richmond Papers

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THE other day the "Supreme" said editorially that the people get just as good government as they deserve, and censured the people for not taking a more active part in the government of the city. The Idea thinks the people of Richmond "deserve" the best government in the world and are extremely interested in the management of their city, but they have no forceful leader in the press of the city, which has backbone enough to make a firm stand for clean men for office or to oppose crooks in office. Just this morning we have the "Supreme" wasting its space in two long editorials on New York City politics, one concerning the enforcement of Sunday laws there and the other concerning the police for not breaking up the murders in Chinatown, and here it is right before election time and not one word about good government in Richmond and when they do have to mention politics here they are always sure not simply not to censure the rascals in politics but even to go further and white wash them when caught.

What the people of Richmond want is clean and efficient government IN RICHMOND, and since the people of Richmond are not concerned in the crookedness in New York, we wonder if The Times-Dispatch writes these editorials for the benefit of the poor, benighted New Yorkers. We doubt if one in every one hundred thousand of the people of that city have ever heard of the little Times-Dispatch.

This morning paper will delight in cussing out the mayor of Chicago or New York or Boston BY NAME and will damn Governor Hughes or Governor Crothers or the govern or of any other state than Virginia, but did a single reader of The

Times-Dispatch ever hear of that paper ever censuring a governor of Virginia or a mayor of Richmond, except the only real mayor Richmond ever had, namely, Carlton McCarthy? No. Let The Times-Dispatch show a little interest in the people of Virginia or of Richmond by taking an active stand for clean men in Richmond City offices and it will find it an easy matter with its big equipment to give Richmond in two year's time a grand, economical, clean, decent government. But The Times-Dispatch is afraid it will lose as a subscriber the cousin of the father-in-law of the brother of the neighbor of some crooked politician. In other words, the Richmond papers are cowards and afraid to take a stand for good men.

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Every man is the architect of his own fortune, and he needs plenty of sand.—Selected.

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

April 30, 1910

No. 18

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## Justice Crutchfield

Engineer Bolling

J. B. Wood

Red Light Evil

Election Talk

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VOL. IV

APRIL 30, 1910

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Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

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Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## What the Election Means.

### The People Disgusted.

THE Election returns of last week carry some tremendous lessons to those who are interested in the government of the city.

In the first place, the results show the election of the ring crowd.

With few notable exceptions the ring elements won on Thursday of last week.

In the second place, the results show that the people did not care enough about results to register their votes at the polls.

Out of a population of nearly 100,000 only about 5,000 votes were polled.

This is a most significant fact.

Another notable fact is this: That one candidate was elected with only 230 votes to his credit.

Just think of that fact for a moment. Due to our rotten ward system 230 men may decide who is to run the city of Richmond,—230 men may put into the council of the city a man to represent and legislate for 100,000 people, tho all of the other 100,000 may think him unfit for office.

This is the big lesson Richmond people need to learn, that the ward system is a failure and however much they may desire good government they can never obtain it so long as it is possible for the elements of evil to decide their elections as they can do and do do under the ward-grab plan.

And this should be known, that a council elected under the ward system never will abolish the ward system.

It is a matter of universal regret to the progressive element of the city that the most ardent supporter of the government by commission idea was defeated in Lee Ward.

Men of advanced ideas of government are defeated and men whose only qualifications are that they have the support of the ring and the special interests are elected.

If Richmond is ever to enjoy a better government, it will not get it through the council of the council's own accord. It will get it through the expressed will of the people in organized effort displayed.

Now is the time to organize for the future. The people of Clay Ward are awakening. Let their example be followed, let the people of the city arouse themselves and throw off this ancient, worn out, extravagant, inefficient, cumbersome form and substitute a modern, up-to-date, business-like plan in its place.

The reason the ring crowd is against the change is that it will work the ruin of the control of the machine over the city government. If the plan is adopted in its entirety, it will do away with party politics in city affairs.

Why should it be that a man must be of a certain stripe of

political faith before he can have anything to do with the government of the city ?

What has the tariff got to do with running Richmond any how?

Cut national politics out of city affairs.

Do away with party primaries.

Let elections be at large.

Install the initiative and referendum and the recall.

But the people must organize first.

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## Justice John

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This Monday morning, April 25th, Justice John Crutchfield of the police court, arrived at the east entrance to City Hall in company with W. P. (Dutch) Leaman. The writer has frequently seen Leaman in Justice John's office in conversation with the justice, and on a recent occasion after Manning and Leaman had left the court, the Justice came out and called, "Where's Chris. and Dutch?"

Now a record of these little incidents may seem trivial to those who do not understand, and yet it is just this intimacy between the judge of the police court and those who protect women of ill-fame in their vile and unlawful acts that makes people have a right to infer that when it comes to a trial these protected creatures do not get their deserts. Call to mind that W. P. Leaman went on the bond of the Molloy woman on a former occasion and that he was in court when the Molloy woman was given a light sentence and that Manning, police commissioner, who admitted he acted unlawfully in establishing a red light district, was also on hand in the police court, and one can readily see why Justice John's decisions are questioned and why The Idea feels it its duty to show to the public these acts of its public servants and draw reasonable and harsh inferences therefrom.



## *A Little Widow Is a Dangerous Thing*

---

Did you hear of the Widow Malone,  
   Ohone!  
 Who lived in the town of Athlone,  
   Alone!  
 Oh, she melted the hearts  
 Of the swains in them parts,  
 So lovely the Widow Malone,  
   Ahone!  
 Of lovers she had a full score  
   Or more;  
 And fortunes they all had galore  
   In store;  
 From the minister down  
 To the clerk of the town  
 All were courting the Widow Malone  
   Ohone!  
 All were courting the Widow Malone.

---

As the candle to the moth; as the molasses-jug to the pestiferous fly, so is a handsome widow to the heart of man. He comprehendeth not the treacle-sweet depths of her, neither is he able to resist the pale flame of past pathos which seemeth to envelope her. She giveth subtlety to the simplest of her charms, and from man she extracteth even the little wisdom which he hath.

A wholesome fear of widows is the beginning of true knowledge, but fool men despise both wisdom and instruction.

Behold now a wise friend who sayeth: Young man, if widows entice thee, consent thou not. If one of them sayeth unto thee, "Come, button up my glove," or "Tighten thou the latchet of my shoe," lend not thine ears to her request, neither bend thy knee before her to do her bidding. For,

lo! her feet are shod with satin and sleek cunning, and she knoweth well every step of the way that leadeth to the citadel of your heart. Should she smile sweetly at you, saying, "Let us two together make a rare-bit after the play to-night," harden thou thy heart against her, and—ostensibly for thy stomach's sake,—refuse to be beguiled. For as the yellow cheese melteth and curdleth in the chafing-dish, so wilt thy heart melt within thee and thy liberty pass forever from thy keeping when thou beholdest her in the ruffles of her dainty cooking apron. Foolish virgins may let their lamps go out from lack of oil; but a wise widow attendeth carefully to the alcohol in her spirit-lamp.

Wisdom crieth without; she uttereth her voice in the streets. But what male creature has discretion enough to hearken unto her? How long, oh, ye simple ones, will ye let yourselves be fooled? Surely in vain the net is spread in the sight of any bird; but silly man, dazzled by the gleam in a pretty widow's eyes, walketh blindly into the pit which she diggeth for his feet.

It hath been truly said that a widow's degree of blandishment is conservatively estimated at twenty-five spinster-power; yea, her dominion over men is as wine unto water when compared with the influence exercised by a simple miss. She walketh in the light of past experience, and no other torch is needed to guide men's feet unto her. A maiden may blush or blunder herself into a good life's settlement; but the way of a widow is blazed straight through to her goal. In the handling of men she maketh no mistakes. She hath learned the uses of silence; yea, and as acceptable offerings of frankincense and myrrh are her spoken words to the vanity of men. The wisdom of the Spinx is hers when it comes to devising means of getting what she wants, and the inestimable value of judiciously administered food as a subjugating force in woman's dealings with men is exceedingly well known unto her.

Behold now, even a widow without means is a thing of beauty and a joy forever to the average man; but when riches are added unto her, she becometh as a priceless ruby

in his sight, and all other things that can be desired are not to be compared unto her. Length of days—without work,—she holdeth for him in her right hand; and in her left hand he seeth visions of riches and lasting peace of mind. The hearts of all her male friends cleave mightily unto her, and surely, she will do them,—up brown,—all the days of her life. She stretcheth out her hands to the poor creatures; yea, she reacheth forth her hands and draws them in—by the dozen—so that sometimes it happeneth that the net whereby she catcheth them breaketh in twain from its own great weight.

But when she catcheth them she seeketh straightway to teach them wisdom, and she worketh willingly on them—with her eyes. She openeth her mouth with full knowledge of what men want to hear, and her breath, sweet with the honey of flattery, is as incense in the nostrils of her lovers. She looketh well to the ways of men, and in her heart is a deep, deep understanding of them all. Having already conducted various experiments in the psychological laboratory of matrimony; she feeleth herself competent to pass perfect judgment on that least of all complex creations—man. But whether it was worth her while to go through with so much to learn so little she can never quite decide.

A widow is always well dressed. She is like the merchant ships; she bringeth her merchandise from afar. Her handmaidens make her covering of rich embroidery; her clothing is silk and fine linen. In chiffon-cloth and sashes, she gazeth confidingly up into the eyes of men, and lo!! destruction as a whirlwind cometh immediately upon him. Thenceforth shall he eat of the fruit of his own recklessness, and his days shall be long in the meshes of the web that is of her weaving.

My friend, if thou wishest for true happiness walk not in the way with the widows; refrain thy feet from following in their path. Also hearken unto the homely voice of the immortal Mr. Weller as he earnestly entreats, "Samivil, Samivil, bevare of the widders."—Marion Banister. (Selected.)

# The Ring's Way

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## Government by Slate

---

In many of the wards slates were made by the ring for the election last week and it worked exceedingly well, as it generally does. Below we print a duplicate of the slate which was circulated to voters in Jefferson ward. Only one party on the slate failed of election and he was a new man that the ring desired to put in, and if one will look at the returns he will see the ring almost succeeded in getting him through, for the man he was opposed to just did slide in. It is next to impossible for even an old councilman to beat a slate without expending much money to do it, and it is even harder for an outsider to get in without the sanction of the ring. Good men know this and that's why they will so seldom offer for office.

For Board of Aldermen  
WILLIAM H. ADAMS  
H. W. MELTON

---

For Common Council  
JOHN HIRSHBERG  
JOHN J. LYNCH  
MORGAN R. MILLS  
C. A. WESTON  
C. H. WILTSHIRE

---

See next week's Idea for more about protected gambling houses.



## The Second Baptist Church

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All Hell and The Times-Dispatch—(now don't censure us for referring to Hell and mentioning the Devil by name for it is this false modesty and miserably cowardly soft talk which refuses to tell on him in plain English that has permitted his Satanic Majesty to run this old world so long) so we say plainly again—All Hell and The Times-Dispatch are jubilant today over the action of the Second Baptist Church of this city in refusing to let the Anti-Saloon League use their church edifice for a Field Day occasion, which is nothing more nor less than a time of preaching the doctrine of salvation from the liquor evil, the greatest enemy the churches of God ever had.

There is no use in quibbling over theories of the functions of the church, let's face the big fact that today organized Christian effort has been set back and saddened, and the liquor business has been given a new impetus and life by the action of a Church of Christian people. There is the issue. Face it like men.

Answer this question: Why did The Times-Dispatch, the best organ the whiskey people ever had in Virginia, so rejoice as to give this bit of news the most prominent heading and position in a recent issue? It is for no other cause than that they saw in it a great victory for the whiskey business over the forces which make for right in the community.

You don't find politicians jumping up in holy horror and yelling, "Separate Church and State", when the churches are called on to fight the great tuberculosis evil, altho it means legislation—State law, mind you—and the spending of State money to establish sanatoriums and fight the dread plague. And why? Well, it's just because it don't interfere with business(?) Ah! that's a good word! A name to conjure with. Business! Business!

And just as soon as a business is hurt, then we have all

manner of excuses made why the Churches should not enter politics.

Carlton McCarthy said the other day in a speech in the East End, "Religion and Morality, Law and Government, and consequently Politics, are inseparable." Look at that carefully. Should churches be separated from religion? Can Religion and Morality be separated? Can morality be separated from the laws of any state? (Law is nothing but the codifying of the morals of a people). Can Law and Government be separated? Can Government be separated from politics?

If it is not the Church's business to run both Politics and the Government, then The Bible is but old wives' tales, just what the whiskey people would have it anyway.

The Messiah came in fulfillment of the prophecy, "And the government shall be upon his shoulders." McCarthy also said, "It is the function of the Church to conquer and to rule." Did He not pray, "Thy Kingdom come and thy will be done on earth"?

Are we not told that He shall come "Whose right it is to rule"?

Has anybody any right to rule except the CHURCH, "the bride of Christ", the "joint heir" to the kingdom? If He and the Church are to rule by right as "King of Kings" and Lord of Lords and men, how can Religion and Politics be separated?

If the Bible means anything, it means that brotherly love which shall not stop at creeds, for "Faith without works is dead", but which shall ACT through all means to help men in some tangible way and the only way that universally touches men is their government. The Time of Judgment according to Holy Writ, means a time when His Government shall be established in the earth and the Mighty Counselor and Prince of Peace shall judge and rule the world in righteousness. And that so-called Christian is but a weakling who can not see that God, through His messengers and revelations to men has clearly shown them His plan to establish through them a government by which all the nations of the

earth shall be blessed. And all the signs of the times indicate an early return to power of God's chosen and peculiar people.

But to get to the point: We feel that we have a peculiar right to talk about this action of the Second Baptist Church because of two facts: The one is that the editor is a Baptist and thus the criticism of the action of a Baptist Church is embarrassing and therefore no base motive can be attributed. The other is that the pastor of this church, Dr. W. R. L. Smith, has a particularly warm spot in the heart of the writer because of the intimate personal relations both between Dr. Smith and the family of the writer for many years in Lynchburg, and between the writer and Dr. Smith's most charming and intellectual wife who was his Sunday School teacher in the infant class of College Hill Church some twenty-odd years ago, and the kindnesses of the Doctor himself to the writer in the past.

Tho it is embarrassing, we still feel it our duty to say that this action of the Second Church and this tendency of the wealthy churches to cast cold water on the action of the Anti-Saloon League in its beneficent work, the most practical and godly that Christian people have ever engaged in, can not be too harshly condemned.

Tho the body took this action quietly and ostensibly in the interests of the church (for fear it would be contaminated by correcting evil) still the good people of Richmond have the right to infer, as they are inferring, and as is the talk in every quarter that this action is the result of the fact that prominent Virginia politicians have had a great weight in molding the sentiment of the members in opposition to any stand being taken against the liquor evil.

We have no hesitancy in saying that no recent action of any church body has done more to set back the final consummation of a clean State both morally and politically than this action of the Second Church.

God save the church that can not take a firm stand in the front ranks in man's greatest conflict against man's greatest enemy.

It is a remarkable fact that small churches and poor churches where men of wealth and politics do not belong never have any difficulty in declaring their allegiance to the organized efforts of good men to fight evil.

Many monied men in our churches begin to have fits whenever any organized effort is ever put forth to fight evil when it hits any of the financial interests of the community.

---

Don't get so mad as to stop reading The Idea because you can't agree with all we say. This paper would not be worth anything if it said things to please you or even its own editor. We are mad with ourselves because we have to write some things which we don't like to say, but a clearly defined duty to the public makes us do things as we have done in this number, to hurt our own financial interests and drive away friends. The paper that always pleases can't accomplish much good.

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# The Red Light District

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## Money Making BUSINESS

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We learn from reliable sources that a certain house of ill fame in the Red Light District keeps about 12 girls to whom room and board are furnished at \$15.00 a week each, making \$180.00 a week, or \$810.00 a month as income to the proprietor, a well known man who does business in the name of the woman in charge.

You see it would very seriously hurt BUSINESS to break up this traffic in the virtue of women. No wonder our business(?) government refuses to enforce the law when it is violated in the name of business.

Besides this \$800.00 a month there is an enormous profit in selling liquor without license, especially at night and on Sundays when the other places of dispensing whiskey and beer are closed. The whiskey traffic and prostitution go together and in Richmond they are great revenue producing BUSINESSES.

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# The Albemarle

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Inasmuch as A. H. Johnson, formerly of The Albemarle, has been unjustly criticized for going back on his friends, we feel it due him to state to the public that Johnson was not responsible for all that exposal and that he attempted to shield certain ones we exposed and that certain papers and information came into our possession entirely without his knowledge.

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# Anna Maguire

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## The Richmond White Slave Trade

---

THE story of Anna Maguire, the little nine years old white girl who was being kept by a negro woman in old Jackson ward, has many lessons for thoughtful men and women in that it discloses to the public gaze a frightful state of affairs in the legalized so-called maternity homes of Richmond. Many people do not know that today there are in Richmond, operated by disreputable women, so-called homes, really assignation houses, where a man may send the girl he has ruined, and where the child will be disposed of either by murder or neglect or by giving away to some negro or by selling the child on the New Orleans whore house market.

And these so-called maternity homes operate under a state charter and when it has been known by the police that they were immoral meeting places still the law so protected them that they could not be broken up, but could simply be removed to another section.

Richmond has become notorious throughout our South-land as the hot-bed of this nefarious traffic, and Florida and New Orleans look to Richmond for their regular quota of bastard children.

Thanks to the legislature these chartered maternity homes will now no longer be permitted to operate in the dark, but may be closed where their practices are criminal.

But why does the legislature permit them to exist at all?

On the corner of Fifth and Leigh streets such a place is operated by a woman of many names and it is reported that here white infants have been seen neglected and left in the back yard while their inhuman or unfortunate parents trust-

ed, perhaps, that they had been given a good home and were properly cared for.

Now back of all this nefarious business is a cause or causes, and certainly one cause of this is the immense illegal traffic in virtue which the Richmond Board of Police Commissioners is responsible for down on Mayo street.

Here immorality is legalized by the Board until its damnable influence permeates the whole fabric of Richmond society and girls of good families are taken to these vile resorts and the maternity home, which makes it easy to cover their sins, is the next step in crime.

Just a few weeks ago the country was shocked by the account of the inhuman treatment of a consignment of babies from a Richmond maternity home to Florida.

Now the question The Idea wants to ask is this: Is it not about time that Richmond people were getting tired of this reputation for lawlessness and immorality which Richmond is getting in the land?

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## J. B. Wood

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J. B. Wood, formerly a clerk of the C. & O. Railway Company which exerts a strong influence in Richmond politics, and President of the Board of Aldermen, and now recently elected by the board of which he is a member, as head of the State Prison, is reported to have made a talk at Venable St. Baptist Church in which he said that all he was he owed to Venable St. Church. Many assented to this, so the story goes, for it is well known that many Richmond politicians have used their church associations as stepping stones to office. It is also said, however, that one who heard him remarked that he should have said that all he was he owed to Venable St. Church and Clyde W. Saunders, for be it known, Wood was generally recognized as a Saunders man and he astounded even some of his best friends when he went on the witness stand and testified more unqualifiedly than any other witness to the good reputation of Clyde W. Saunders and also when he accompanied Clyde to the Governor's Mansion to beg His Excellency for a piece of political pie for exboss Clyde.



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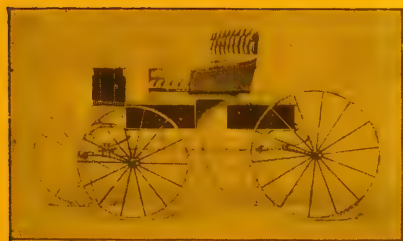
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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

May 7, 1910

No. 19

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—•••—

The Trial  
Newspaper Lies  
The Grand Jury  
Solomon on the Social Evil  
Police Commissioners  
Ring politics

—•••—

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FOR SALE AT ALL NEWS STANDS

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Being some sermonettes published weekly for the common good at  
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A Sign of the Times

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,  
1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## The Idea's Victory

*Police Commissioners*

*Surrender Passes*

*Violate the State Constitution and Were  
Guilty of Bribery*

---

SEVERAL months ago The Idea exposed the fact that police commissioners were violating the constitution of the State in accepting passes from the Va. Railway and Power Company.

In court H. M. Smith of counsel for Manning and Gordon, attempted to excuse these men on the ground that they

were members of the police force.

At that time we were too exhausted to show the utter absurdity of this contention.

They tried to excuse themselves on the ground that the city attorney had at some time in the past, in deciding another question, made the parenthetical remark, viz., (which includes members of the board) which was on its face nothing but a horseback opinion and as such should have had no weight with the board.

Now, even if the city attorney had given as his careful opinion of the law that the commissioners were members of the Police Force that would have given them no moral right for them to accept passes, neither would it have carried a legal right, for the Supreme Court alone can give a binding opinion on such questions.

The truth is that this police board has absolutely no regard for the law of the land, as they have admitted on the witness stand in taking the ground that the House of Ill-fame Law should not be enforced if they thought wise to establish a place of law breaking on Mayo and Franklin streets.

The law plays out when it comes to these men elected to help those whose duty it is to enforce the law.

Old Richmond is still asleep but woe unto the politicians when she awakes in her wrath and shakes off the corruption and rottenness.

---

## A Born Kicker

**T**HE IDEA was born in the objective case. It came a kicking and if it ever dies, it will die a kicking.

We feel it our duty to object to and kick against every evil that shows its head and if there is anybody under heaven that don't like it he can lump it.

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Subscribe to The Idea today; \$1.00 for six months, \$2.00 a year. Send subscription and any complaints to Idea office, 1106 Capitol St.

# Jefferson Ward

---

## Ring Politics

---

EVERY few days another link in the chain that binds Richmond under ring rule is discovered.

The Idea in the past has shown that Manning and Saunders had wonderful influence as ring politicians.

In Jefferson Precinct on primary election day Hancock Manning, brother of Chris. Manning, Jr., was election judge and Manning himself was active at the polls, while Clyde Saunders, Ex-Boss of the City Committee, visited, in an automobile, the voting places.

Now this first Jefferson comprises the foreign and illiterate quarters of this ward and one can readily see the value to the ring to have a man to help the illiterate mark their ballots.

The Idea would also inquire why it is that this voting booth is placed right in the bar room section of the precinct instead of in Broad street or away from the evil influences of the saloon.

All men know the relation of the saloon to elections and that evil politicians have always used the saloon and the treating habit to advantage on election day. The purchasable and the easily influenced vote goes to the treater, and the political boss works this to the limit.

Likewise Second Jefferson voting place is next to a bar on Main street near 22nd, not far from the Molloy house and Botto's fake club and gambling joint. A well known ring politician used this to advantage on election day by treating the crowd to drinks.

No one kicks when you mix whiskey and politics to the poisoning of the State but every crooked politician applauds when some good Christian(?) brother cries out against the union of religion and politics.



# Persecuting Jews

---

WHENEVER anyone says anything to the credit of the Jew there is always some fellow around to stick up his nose and curse the Jew, and half the time he will attribute his hatred of the Jew to his concern for Christianity, as if it were Christian to hate the race which alone could produce the founder of such a religion of love. Just now the whole world is being again shocked by the reports of heathen massacres of Jews in Roumania, supposed to be a Christian nation, and the dispatches tell us that horrible atrocities are being perpetrated on these unfortunate people and that those who are not butchered outright are being torn away from their homes and herded and shipped away like cattle, while our government that pretended to beat Spain in the interests of oppressed Cubans, does not dare do a thing when the oppressed are the greatest race the world has yet produced. And the reason is that it was to the interests of certain commercial enterprises of the country to fight Spain, but it would not help these same enterprises to take up for the Jew.

We wonder why it is that people who claim to reverence the Bible and make it the guide of their lives, can not see that God has promised to curse them if they curse his chosen people, the Hebrews, and that the whole world has advanced in all that is highest and best almost solely in so far as it has profitted by the teachings of Jews. History does not show us another people that has done one-tenth for the world that this ancient but virile race has done:

When I consider what Jesus and David and Daniel and Moses and Abraham have done for the world, I bow in reverence to the Jew and my spirit cries out, "Hail! oh, Israel, I, the Gentile salute you."

This persecution of the Israelites is not confined to Europe.

The same spirit that sneers at them here would also murder them if not restrained by law—law, too, that got inspiration and its molding from the Bible of the Jew.

Did you ever think that if we had as much self-control as the Hebrew our jails would be empty, our poor houses would be closed, our insane asylums would not exist and our hospitals would be few and far between.

The Jew is the best citizen Richmond has today and if the rest of us were as peaceable our taxes would be decreased for we'd have no need for so many police and courts of justice.

---

### *Jewish Laws for America*

---

**I**T WAS SOLOMON, the Jew, who said, "He that ruleth his spirit is better than he that taketh a city."—Self mastery is better than success in war. And it was the great Jew, Jesus of Nazareth, who taught that self-control which would turn the other cheek to the assailant who struck in the face.

Now, The Idea does not commend all the characteristics of the Jew nor of any race of men, but it does desire to call attention to the fact that the Jew alone can control himself under oppression and that the Jew alone has accepted as law the only code which has ever kept a race pure and the only code which has outlived IN TOTO the nationality of the people whose it was and is.

As a result of his divinely given law the Jew is today the only thorough bred race on the face of the earth.

While most races die before their nationality departs, this race has survived and due solely to their laws has remained pure hundreds of years after their land has been made desolate.

Most races because of unwise laws crumble from within and bring their own down fall and thus through their own

sins disintegrate and pass away. The reverse is true of the Jew.

Though outside powers have scattered among all nations this peculiar people, still as a people their observance of wise laws has kept them a distinct and separate and pure blood.

And now the lesson for us is this: The signs of the times indicate the early return of the Jews to power and separate national existence and if the other peoples of the earth desire any national existence in competition with them they will have to adopt laws modelled after Jewish laws. Our laws tend to concentrate the wealth of the world into the hands of the few. The Jewish law prohibited such a condition by making a Jubilee Year every 50 years, in which things sold during the preceding years reverted to the original owner.

"The land shall not be sold forever: for the land is mine; for ye are strangers and sojourners with me. And in all the land of your possession ye shall grant a redemption for the land.

If thy brother be waxen poor and have sold away some of his possession . . . . . if he be not able to restore it to himself then that which is sold shall remain in the hand of him that hath bought it until the year of jubilee: and in the jubilee it shall go out, and he shall return unto his possession."—25th chapter of Leviticus.

We cannot claim to be either civilized or Christianized until we get to where the Jew had gotten 4000 years ago.

The Journal, tho sometimes fair to us, gave on May 4th, a false report of the trial of that date and put in the mouth of the editor words, phrases and sentiments which he never dreamed of and which were libelous and contemptably malicious.

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# The Trial

## A Travesty

---

### Say the Preachers

---

ON MONDAY afternoon the editor was arrested on warrant for circulating matter "tending to corrupt the morals of the youth." Mr. W. C. Smith, the first man asked, tho the daily papers tried to get the people to think otherwise, went on our bail bond. On Tuesday the case was postponed till Wednesday when it came up for trial and then the farce began. Chief Werner was introduced as witness and began to set forth that The Idea was printed on such and such a date, etc. This form of proving the distribution and circulation of The Idea was dispensed with by the editor who as counsel for himself admitted the responsibility for the whole thing.

#### CHIEF WERNER CROSS EXAMINED

CAN NAME NO ONE WHO THOUGHT THE ARTICLE A VIOLATION OF LAW

Major Werner stated that on complaint of citizens he swore out the warrant. He was asked, —

Q. "Did any minister of the gospel make any complaint?"

Answer, "No."

Q. "Did any W. C. T. U. organization, one of whose objects is the purification of the young, make any complaint?"

Answer, "No."

(Continued on page 11.)



# Not Indicted by Grand Jury

---

Newspaper Report False As  
Usual In Report About  
The Idea.

---

THE papers of Monday and Tuesday state that the editor of The Idea was indicted by the Grand Jury. This is not true. One paper states, however, that the Grand Jury "instructed" Major Werner to swear out warrant. The Idea would simply say that it seems evident that the grand jury, tho composed almost entirely of politicians, could find no cause for indictment and there their duty ceased.

It is not their function to "instruct" the Chief of Police in his duties, though such a proceedure may have been gone through with because Major Werner did not desire to take the responsibility of warranting with no more cause than he had.

No one believes that Major Werner is responsible for this action any way.

The Idea has been after those back of Major Werner who have been and are attempting to suppress this paper.

The Police Board is Chief Werner's master and he dares do very little without their bidding and direction.

# *The Red Light District*

---

*Discussed by Solomon*

---

For at the window of my house I looked through my casement, and beheld among the simple ones, I discerned among the youths, a young man void of understanding, passing through the street near her corner: and he went the way to her house, in the twilight, in the evening, in the black and dark night: and, behold, there met him a woman with the attire of an harlot, and subtil of heart. (She is loud and stubborn; her feet abide not in her house: now she is without, now in the streets, and lieth in wait at every corner.) So she caught him, and kissed him, and with an impudent face said unto him, I have peace offerings with me; this day have I payed my vows. Therefore came I forth to meet thee, diligently to seek thy face, and I have found thee. I have decked my bed with coverings of tapestry, with carved works, with fine linen of Egypt. I have perfumed my bed with myrrh, aloes, and cinnamon. Come, let us take our fill of love until the morning: let us solace ourselves with loves. For the goodman is not at home, he is gone a long journey: he hath taken a bag of money with him, and will come home at the day appointed. With her much fair speech she caused him to yield, with the flattering of her lips she forced him. He goeth after her straightway, as an ox goeth to the slaughter, or as a fool to the correction of the stocks; till a dart strike through his liver; as a bird hasteth to the snare, and knoweth not that it is for his life.

Hearken unto me now therefore, O ye children, and attend to the words of my mouth. Let not thine heart decline to her ways, go not astray in her paths. For she hath cast down many wounded; yea, many strong men have been

slain by her. Her house is the way to hell, going down to the chambers of death.

The above is a quotation from the 7th chapter of Proverbs by Solomon the King, Poet, Philosopher.

Thus is described not simply the street wherein the harlot dwells but the house and even the bed itself and it is so plain as to be offensive to some, but who would dare say that it tends to the corrupting of the morals of the youth of the city.

Dr. McDaniel read this passage recently to a cultured audience composed largely of women and children. I defy you to compare it with the article for which the editor of this paper is now on trial.

The most offensive word we used was whore-house and yet the word whore, whoredom or whore-monger is found in profusion in the Bible; notably in Leviticus, Deuteronomy, Proverbs, Ezekiel, Jeremiah, Hosea, Ephesians, Hebrews, Timothy and Revelation, and the word harlot is found in Genesis, Leviticus, Deuteronomy, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Proverbs, Joshua, Kings, Ezekiel, Hosea, Matthew, Corinthians and Revelations.

And The Idea was far more guarded in the use of such words than the sacred writers are and let no one say that The Idea whose whole existence has been to uphold the standard of morality tends to corrupt unless he is willing to go back on the Bible itself.

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## Another Lie

---

The Times-Dispatch of May 5th stated that the editor of The Idea "drew comparisons between himself and Jesus Christ." This is absolutely false, like many of their malicious reports concerning the editor's trials. If we were able to employ lawyers we would sue them for heavy damages. We are informed we have an excellent case against them and if anybody wants to help us carry it through we will whack up on the proceeds.

## THE TRIAL. Major Werner on Stand.

(Continued from page 7.)

- Q. "Did any Christian organization of any description make any complaint?" Answer, "No."
- Q. "Did any Sunday School superintendent make any complaint?" Answer, "No."
- Q. "Did any woman make any complaint?" Ans. "No."
- Q. "Did any police commissioner?" Answer, "No."
- Q. "Did any officer of any Christian organization or any organization whatever make complaint?" Ans. "No."
- Q. "Did any member of any church make complaint?" Answer, "Yes, a member of Second Baptist Church."
- Q. "Who was it?" Ans. "Can not tell."
- Q. "So you can not give a single name of a single party who has made complaint that The Idea was corrupting the morals of the youth?" Ans. "No."
- Q. "Did this member of the Second Church make complaint before or after my criticism of the action of that church on last Saturday?" Ans. "After."
- Q. "When?" Ans. "Monday last."
- Q. "But you can not name a single person?" Ans. "No."

Then the editor attacked the credibility of the witness by showing that Article 2790 of the Code, which immediately precedes the one on which warrant against the editor was based was the law prohibiting the existence of the houses of ill fame against which he, the editor was leading the fight in the article cited in the warrant. And he stated that it was evident that he was arrested, not because his article was obscene, but because it attacked the chief, who swore out the warrant, for his refusal to enforce the house of ill fame law. The chief was then asked if he knew that the very terms he objected to in The Idea were found in nearly every book of the Bible, and if he knew that the seventh chapter of Proverbs describes not only a red light district street but even the houses and the beds themselves, and then he read Solomon's description of the ways of such women (this we print elsewhere in this issue) and he was asked if he regarded that as obscene or any part of the Bible as obscene, tho many passages were more plain than that. He replied, "No." (Concluded next issue.)



# Who Are the Grand Jurymen That "Instruct" Chief Police?

---

## A Bunch of Politicians

---

Chas. F. Taylor (Foreman) is chairman of the Board of Fire Commissioners and a politician of long standing.

J. J. Lynch, Councilman from Jefferson Ward.

Mark Gunst, resigned Councilman from one ward and just elected in the primary from another ward.

Fred. H. Garter, Councilman from Marshall ward.

A. C. Harman, Legislator from Richmond.

R. T. Hill, colored.

J. A. Curtis, Legislator from Richmond, and two others, identity unknown to us.

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## *The Idea Protects*

---

### *Does Not Corrupt*

---

We are reliably informed that whenever The Idea shows up this red light business this section has a season of hard times,—that as a result men fear to go there lest the police will perchance enforce the law. It is thus seen that instead of The Idea corrupting the youth, it on the other hand protects them, and it is rumored around that because it does hurt the common woman's business their protectors have gotten busy to kill The Idea for "business reasons." The red light business and the whiskey business would move hell to stop The Idea.

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Or if you send us 5 one dollar, six months subscriptions, we will give you one dollar. Almost any live boy or girl or man or woman can go right in his own neighborhood and make a dollar or two in an hour's time. You just try it and see. The Idea will try to have cartoons in each issue and besides will always be interesting and helpful and stand for good government and good men in office and will expose the evil wherever it is found.

Your subscription will help much in the fight for better things and you will also find it a cheaper and safer way of getting The Idea. Subscribers have their papers mailed to them every Friday evening, and by subscribing the paper costs less than four cents a copy, making a saving of seventy cents during the year.

Cut out the coupon below and mail it today with the price and The Idea will commence with any number you desire. We have saved out several copies of all back numbers. Do it now.

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THE IDEA, 1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

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(<sup>ONE YEAR</sup>  
<sup>SIX MONTHS</sup>) to

Name.....

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# Play Ball

---

IN the State League, Richmond, and in the College League, the University of Virginia, both have the unenviable reputation of being hoggish. Whether we like it or not, the other cities in the state regard Richmonders as conceited, and the University boys as selfish and unfair to their rivals.

This article, however, is intended primarily for Richmond and is written in the interests not simply of clean base ball but of loyalty on the part of Richmond rooters, who seem at times to be so hoggish that if a player makes an error he is subjected to an unmerciful roasting which hurts rather than helps the team.

Many a good player has been discouraged by insulting and uncalled for remarks from the spectators just at the time he most needed encouragement.

Richmond fans should learn that the team needs cheers when they are losing far more than when they are winning.

We firmly believe that Richmond's bad showing last year was largely caused by the discouragement given the team, and especially the manager, when they needed helpful encouragement most during a slump.

No white man or black man or red or yellow man should ever be expected to stand what the Richmond public gave to Perry Lipe last year and if the same spirit is to prevail this year manager Lawlor cannot be expected to land the pennant for the capitol city.

It is a matter of regret that but recently a visiting team felt called on to score the Richmond public for their disloyalty and ungentlemanly attitude and criticism to their own team.

As a one time base ball manager the editor knows that the only time rooting is much needed or does much real appreciable good is when the other side is winning.

Let's help the Richmond Team win in 1910.

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---

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

Vol. IV

May 14, 1910

No. 20

RICHMOND'S C(AE)ZAR



“On what meat doth this our CÆSAR feed that he is grown so great? . . . . Why, man, he doth bestride the narrow world like a Colossus; and we petty men walk under his huge legs and peep about to find ourselves dishonourable graves.”— Act 1, Scene 2, Julius Caesar.



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## CHIEF WERNER

---

### Guilty of Misfeasance in Office

---

Admits His Guilt in Presence of Commonwealth's Attorney, Folkes, Who Does Nothing

---

ON the witness stand last week, Louis Werner, Chief of Police of Greater Richmond, in reply to a question by A. A. Yoder, counsel for himself, admitted that he was violating his oath of office in refusing to enforce the statute prohibiting the existence of houses of ill fame.

The house of ill fame law is the one immediately preceding the obscene literature law. He admitted he was not trying to enforce the former law but was posing as a moral teacher in enforcing the latter, altho not a single soul could be found to stand with him and say The Idea had violated that statute.

When he admitted his guilt, Minetree Folwkes sat there

and looked at him and instead of prosecuting him, the Chief of Police, prostituted his oratorical gifts by turning upon the editor of The Idea and pretending to do his duty to the commonwealth by prosecuting the editor who had done no legal nor moral wrong but whose sole offence was that he was breaking up the red light evil by bringing to public attention the malfeasance in office of those who were sworn to enforce the laws. Justice John showed he had determined to stop The Idea if it were possible to do so by a harsh sentence, and he showed his prejudice by his attitude towards the editor all through the trial and his utterly uncalled for and unjudge-like, and therefore unjust, remarks in passing judgment.

To a spectator it looked like a conspiracy on the part of all those who are responsible for the rotten condition of affairs in Mayo Street to forever put an end to any opposition to their protection of criminals.

The trial was a complete farce and the editor of this paper took an appeal from the unheard-of sentence of \$100.00 fine, 30 days in jail and \$500.00 bond to keep the peace for 12 months.

We desire to state right here that we will pay no more attention to the decisions of this petty police justice than we would pay to the blowing of the wind or the crowing of a bantam rooster.

---

Oh! no the Idea has not corrupted any body's morals and never will but it has done something, and that is, it has put dynamite under the Chief of Police and the Police Board and they are so hot in the collar that Justice John says "The Idea must be stopped." Well we'll see about that.

---

Yes the Idea is very offensive to the crooks because it breaks up their business of crime.

---

No! The Editor of the Idea is not on trial but John Crutchfield, Louis Werner and the Police Board are on trial for their official lives. Watch the result.

## Pollock and Wise

---

Mayor Richardson has gotten his eyes sufficiently opened to start an investigation into the conduct of Messrs Pollock and Wise councilmen who are charged in the mayor's message with receiving \$500.00 for their services as counsel for certain dairy interests before the Board of Health.

The points to be noticed are, first that the money was placed in the hands of Mr. Deitrick by a dozen dairymen with the understanding that it was to be paid to Messrs Pollock and Wise after the proposed ordinance had become law and that the money so raised was paid the day after the accomplishment of this desired plan.

Second, That the Chief officer of the board of health before which Messrs. Wise and Pollock appeared to secure the recommendation of the passage of the desired ordinance, gave an order to his inspectors 'not to use any strenuous efforts to detect' the violation of the ordinance in question.

Third. That the Health officer receives his position and pay at the hands of the council of which Messrs. Pollock and Wise are members.

The whole matter was summed up by Mr. Umlauf when he said that he could not understand why milk dealers should be required to pay \$500.00 to attorneys to convince the Health Board that a good feed is wholesome.

Now it is already clear from admissions of the men charged that they are guilty of acts certainly unethical and unbecoming councilmen supposed to look after the interests of the citizens as opposed to special interests.

They most likely have violated no law, but a man may be guilty of a very serious breach of ethics and morals and be within the limits of the law.

Let not the citizens think that this committee, appointed, as shown in the resolution, at the request of Pollock and Wise themselves, will ever do anything but vindicate these councilmen.

If the council will whitewash the tax collector who openly violated law, can they be expected to do otherwise with their own associates who, however much they may have broken faith with the people, have not broken a statute.



# Richmond Mothers

## Back The Idea

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Below we print part of a letter sent by a Christian Mother enclosing a contribution for the fight which The Idea is making for the right against wrong.

This is but a sample of many such messages of cheer which we have received from the Christian womanhood of Richmond,

We are frank to state that but for such moral and material help The Idea would have been both financially and otherwise unable to bear the burdens of oppression and contumely which have been heaped upon us.<sup>#</sup>

Heaven bless the valiant men and the faithful women and the hopeful boys who have stood by us and held up our hands in a conflict which at times we felt was more than man could stand.

City, May 9, 1910

Dear Sir:

I need not tell you how sorrowful I was, and am, over this last persecution, and wonder why the Christian men do not rally as they should and stop this oppression. If the righteous men of our city only WOULD do their christian duty justice and right would prevail in your case. Bear up my friend, and God keep you stout-hearted and ALWAYS brave in every good cause. My best wishes are yours, my prayers also, that our Father may make you a wondrous power to uplift and raise poor fallen humanity to a true vision of their duty and their obligation to God and man.

God bless you in your uphill work prays your friend.

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Subscribe to The Idea today; \$1.00 for six months, \$2.00 a year. Send subscription and any complaints to Idea office, 1106 Capitol St.

# The Trial

## A Travesty

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### Say the Preachers

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(Continued from last issue)

#### MAJOR WERNER ON THE STAND

He thus was forced to admit that words in themselves were not obscene and did not come under the law unless their use was in such a connection as to tend to corrupt.

Then the editor contended that inasmuch as The Idea tended to break up these houses and thus prevent immorality, the paper did not tend to corrupt but had an opposite tendency; namely, to enforce the law and raise the moral standard.

At this point the justice indicated that as far as he was concerned he had made up his mind and no cross-examination was necessary. There was therefore nothing else for the editor to do but to say that in view of the statement of the justice he would not proceed further in the police court.

Werner left the chair, and then after argument by Yoder and Folkes, Justice John said he had determined to break up this and he was going to pass such a sentence as would keep The Idea from appearing again; so he fined \$100.00 and sentenced 30 days in jail and demanded \$500 bond to keep the peace, after delivering so un-called-for and bitter and malicious a denunciation as to call forth the most severe criticism of the spectators in court. A prominent minister stated that it was a travesty and he would not stay in Richmond if such decisions had to stand. Another minister termed it a

mockery and an utter farce, while another stated that now was the time to have the chief indicted for misfeasance in office in that he admitted on the stand he had violated his oath of office in not breaking up these houses of ill fame which called forth the article in question in The Idea.

An appeal was taken to the higher court and the case will come up sometime in June. Mr. W. C. Smith, the friend of all good causes, went the required bonds of \$800.00.

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## *The Big Four Guilty Ones*

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Mayor, D. C. Richardson; Commonwealth's Attorney,  
Minetree Folkes; Chief of Police, Louis Werner;  
Police Justice, J. J. Crutchfield

---

These four men, as pointed out by The Idea in the past, have proven themselves unworthy of their positions and guilty of misfeasance in office.

The mayor is the chief executive of the city and has sworn to see that all the laws of the city and state are enforced. Instead of doing this he has permitted a police board, which has no authority in law whatever, to permit the existence contrary to law, of protected houses of ill fame where debauchery and criminal lewdness reign and where whiskey is sold without license, and on Sundays and after licensed saloons have closed; of wide open gambling joints which are in so close touch with the police department that they operate without molestation; and of open flagrant violation of the Sunday closing laws.

The commonwealth's attorney, Mr. Folkes, has been informed of all these violations and has been offered and given proof of most of them but has refused to act, tho sworn so to do.

The chief of police has confessed on the witness stand his crime and yet, because of a police board in sympathy with him, still feels secure in his position tho he has violated his oath of office.

Justice John Crutchfield instead of putting a stop to the lawless acts of the chief {and the police board has joined them in attempting to suppress the only paper, which would dare expose them in their criminal alliance, and him in his utterly unjust decisions in that he openly refuses to treat all violators of the law alike and publicly says that he will do and can do as he pleases in his court and if there is any one who don't like it he can take an appeal, just as if justice could be subverted by any such high handed action or as if it did not cost very much to an innocent man to have to employ lawyers and pay court fees in the higher courts.

No! these men must go. Richmond is worthy of a better class of servants. Richmond, one of the best towns in the world, is gradually being corrupted by a small band of politicians who, by their permission of open and debasing and nefarious crimes are undermining the morals of the city and the state. The time has come for the people to wrest their government from the hands of the political spoiler, back of whom will always be found the whiskey interests, who buy elections, and bribe juries and corrupt judges.

---

## The Unpardonable Sin

In Richmond you can be a crook all you want to, that is, if you stand in with the powers that be but woe unto you if you dare tell on the crooks, that's the unpardonable sin in Richmond.

The Idea is about the livest suppressed paper you ever saw. When The Idea stops it will be because the 2 x 4 politicians are no more and not because they want to kill it.

Go to the phone right now and call Monroe 2708 and say you would like to have us call and give you prices on printing. Help the good work along.



## Moving Presses Causes Trouble

---

8 Pages this Week, 16 Pages Next

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Due to the moving of The Idea Print Shop from Ginter Park to our new quarters at 1106 Capitol Street we are unable to get out more than 8 pages this week. Next week we will be in full swing and will have among other stuff a personal communication from the editor.

---

Richmond Loan Sharks, Richmond Gambling Houses.

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Will be treated by name and in an ideal way next week. Besides there will be other warm stuff and we are counting on a cartoon that will point a moral and adorn a cover.

---

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**HOW DO YOU LIKE THIS TYPE**

FOR

*Letter Heads*

AND

*Business Cards?*

WE WANT YOUR BUSINESS  
AND ARE READY TO DO YOUR WORK  
PHONE MONROE 2708. OR ADDRESS

*The Idea Print Shop*

OFFICE, 1106 CAPITOL STREET

# HAVE YOU TRIED OUR "MONTHLY PLAN"

FOR HAVING YOUR

*Clothes Cleaned and Pressed?*

It is cheap. It saves you all bother and worry and keeps your clothing in the best possible condition ALL THE TIME.

We send for and deliver work in any part of the city.

Phone, call or drop us a card and we will gladly give you all particulars

## *Star Cleaning & Pressing Club*

11TH AND BROAD STREETS

PHONE, MADISON 4034

---

## *Barbour Buggy Company*

WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS

*South Boston, Virginia*



If you want a first class Buggy,  
Surrey or Farm Wagon  
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All work first class and fully guaranteed.  
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ONLY PLACE IN CITY THAT HAS  
A STOCK OF MOTOR CYCLES ::

PRICES FROM \$150.00 UP

Sole Agents for MERKEL-LIGHT-THOR & RACYCLE

### TOMPKINS,

311 West Broad Street

Phone Madison 3945

---

## WANTED!

# 1000 Men and Women

Who want to look their best at all times, thus gaining the distinction which only the well dressed enjoy, to have their

*Clothes Cleaned and Pressed by*

**"OUR MONTHLY PLAN"**

It is unique, in as much as it relieves you of all bother and worry, while it keeps all your clothing in the best possible condition.

IT IS CHEAP, which is only one of its many good features. Call up or drop us a card and our Mr. Wilburn will see you and give you the particulars.

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*Puritan Cleaning and Dye Works*

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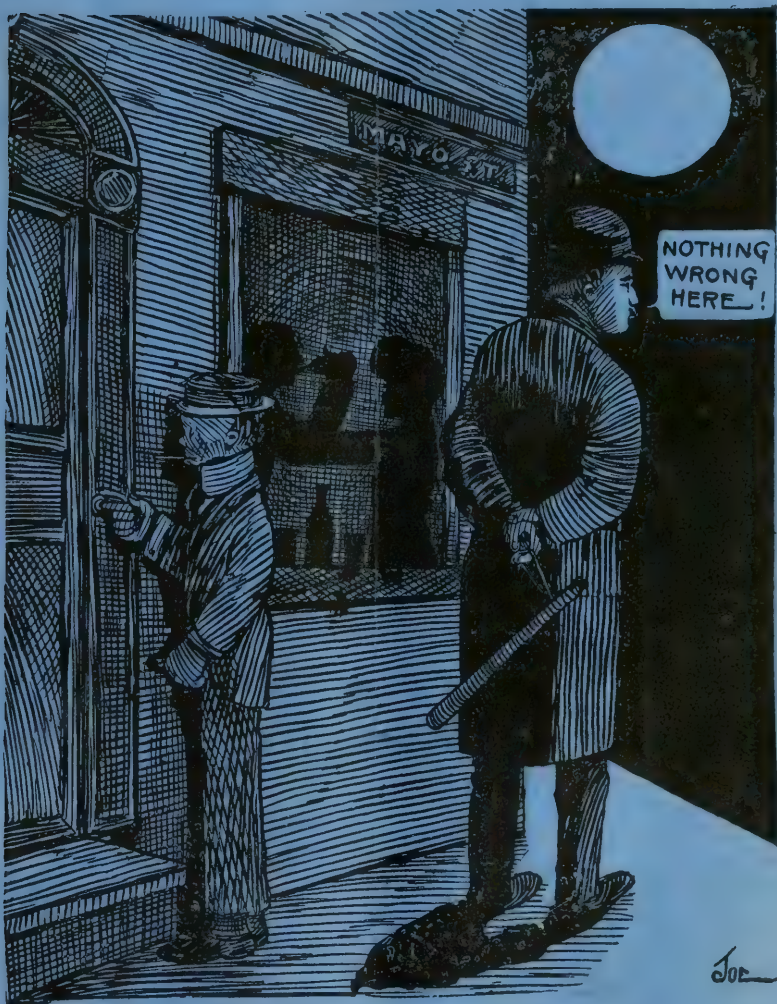
2404 EAST BROAD STREET

All work called for and delivered promptly in any part of the city.

# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

A WALK THROUGH MAYO STREET  
OR HELP THE BLIND



None so blind as those who will not see.



# Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure, 'Phone Monroe 2708,

JEWELER

J. S. JAMES

OPTICIAN

7th AND MAIN STS.

We have in our Fall Stock, and are  
showing special good values in

DIAMONDS, WATCHES, JEWELRY, SILVERWARE, CUT GLASS, Etc.

We invite your inspection

HEADQUARTERS for your sick wants; your family and toilet  
wants, in Drugs and Medicines

Sick Feeders, Bandages, Crutches, Rubber Water Bottles,  
Bags and Sheeting, Douches, Thermometers, Supporters,  
Trusses, Cushions, Toilet Soaps and other requisites, Delicate  
Flavorings and Fine Perfumery Extracts.

- A. H. ROBINS, -  
200 E. MARSHALL ST.

Goods delivered anywhere in the city.

Phone Madison 1388, if busy, Madison 5272.

# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

MAY 21, 1910

No. 21

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## What The Papers Say The Yoder Case

DOWN in the city of Richmond a would-be reformer has struck a snag. Justice Crutchfield, of police court fame, has just imposed the severe penalty of a fine of one hundred dollars and a jail sentence of thirty days.

This reformer is one Adon A. Yoder, the publisher of a pamphlet called the "Idea."

We know nothing of Mr. Yoder or his pamphlet. We have not read the article which brought down upon his head the wrath of Justice Crutchfield, but from some things we have been able to pick up here and there, the finding in this case is one of the grossest outrages ever perpetrated.

Taking a perspective view of this case, it is recalled that

some months ago this man Yoder published in his pamphlet a story which reflected upon the official character of some of the city officials. . . . .

This act of Yoder's seems to have nettled Richmond officialdom, and notice was served on Yoder that he must stop the publication of his pamphlet. But he did not stop. In a later issue he published a story of the tenderloin district of Richmond. For this he was snatched up, fined one hundred dollars and sentenced to jail for thirty days, and required to give a heavy bond to keep the peace.

It is to be presumed that if Yoder had not published that story respecting these officials, nothing would have been done for the publication of the latter story. Admittedly, the story of the tenderloin district was true. He was not called to answer for the untruthfulness, but this drastic handling by the court was upon the frivolous pretext that the story pointed out the location of the district and tended to corrupt the morals of the youth of that city.

It is difficult to conceive how the publication of such a story could operate to the corrupting of the morals of the youth of the city. It might be argued with a show of reason that the article in question really pointed out the shoals upon which the moral character of the youth might be wrecked, and against which he is warned by the article in question. On the face of the proceedings, it would seem that Yoder, under the national Constitution, was clearly within his rights, and that he had not abused the freedom of the press in exposing the character of houses which the officials, in the dereliction of duty, permit. . . . .

IT MATTERS NOT how dark a man may be painted, when he is in the right simple justice demands that he be upheld. If YODER HAS VIOLATED THE LAW, THEN EVERY NEWSPAPER IN VIRGINIA IS LIKEWISE GUILTY.—Roanoke World.

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Subscribe to The Idea today; \$1.00 for six months, \$2.00 a year. Send subscription and any complaints to Idea office, 1106 Capitol St.

# Richmond Papers Obscene

---

Complaint Is Made to Chief by One who  
Sends His Name In Writing, Yet  
Chief Does Not Arrest the Editor

---

Below we print a copy of a letter which was sent to the chief of police on last Tuesday. The editor of the paper has not been arrested tho the article referred to was so vile that The Idea will not copy it. The Richmond dailies are privileged characters, while The Idea must be suppressed because it has dared expose official wrong doing.

In Richmond the all-important question is not, "Has he done any crime?" It is, "Does he stand in with officialdom?"

May 17, '10.

Chief Police Werner,  
Richmond, Va.

Dear Sir:

I am inclosing a clipping from one of the Richmond dailies of the 16th, of which I desire to make complaint as an obscene publication. This paper comes into my family and is read by my children as well as the grown ups and I desire to protect them from the bad effects of such publications.

I see from the dailies that you have recently jacked up another publication in Richmond for a similar offense, on complaint of some one whose name so far as I know you did not give.

I am a citizen of this State and a tax payer in Richmond and think I have the same right to complain of this article as your unnamed citizen did of Mr. Yoder's

Yours respectfully,



# Throttling Free Speech

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## "Crutchfield's Delicate Sensibilities"

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### "Ladylike Police Department Scandalized"

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(Editorial The Bedford Bulletin)

"The publishing of your pamphlet in Richmond must stop. The community will tolerate it no longer."

Is this really the Twentieth Century, or have we returned to the Dark Ages? Can it be possible that such words were really uttered by a police judge in Richmond, Va., U. S. A., Wednesday, May 4th, 1910? Shall we presently awake to find that a horrible nightmare has been trying to strangle us?

We do not know Mr. Yoder, and he may be all that his enemies say he is, but we have heard of Judge Crutchfield, and the delicacy of his sensibilities is well known. It must have been an awful shock to a man whose language is as sweet and pure as the perfumed breath of a princess of the blood to read such obscene literature as that put out by the Idea, whose editor, by the way, we also learn from the dispatches, is a Baptist minister, and claimed that he had published nothing that could not be found in every part of the Bible.

But the sanctified judge is shocked, the refined and ladylike police department scandalized and its morals corrupted, and this journal of free speech "must be stopped." We do not know what the people of Richmond think of Mr. Yoder and his Idea, but it is beginning to look to the remainder of the State as if he is being made the victim of police persecution.

## Yoder and His Supporters

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(Editorial from The Virginian.)

The many letters which the Virginian has published and continues to publish in support of Mr. A. A. Yoder's crusade against corruption and corrupting influences in city life go to show that there is a growing demand in Richmond for the suppression of vice and for rigid enforcement of the law against all forms of immorality and against all persons and establishments that promote it. These persons love their city and its good name. They have a tender solicitude for the youth of both sexes and they are at war with debauchery in all its ramifications. They desire and demand that the government shall be pure and that it shall promote purity by protecting the innocent from evil influences, as far as that is possible. They desire and demand that Richmond shall be a clean city, where allurements that tend to debase the young shall be reduced to the minimum. They believe that Mr. Yoder is working to that end and they do not understand why those who are confessedly violating the written law should be allowed to continue their traffic while Yoder is condemned by the Police Justice for his manner of exposing them. They do not understand why the Chief of Police who admitted on the stand that the law was not enforced should have gone unrebuked, while Yoder was given a jail sentence for publishing the fact. They do not understand why there should be such zealous regard for the law against the publications which tend to corrupt the morals of the young, and so little regard for the law against those establishments whose business it is to corrupt morals. They do not understand why the exposure of a vice should be deemed more demoralizing than the vice exposed.

Believing as they do in the honesty of Yoder, and the sincerity of his purpose, they think that he has been harshly dealt with and persecuted and that the determination to suppress his paper is prompted not so much by a desire to protect the youth of the city from obscene literature as to protect the officers of the law from exposure.

Without going into the merits of Yoder's case which is to be reviewed in a higher court, we present this view of his supporters, who are men and women of character and good intentions, by way of

emphasizing that the editor of *The Idea*, whatever may be his motive, has started an agitation which has brought many to serious reflection and aroused into action the forces of righteousness. If he has revealed the existence of vice, he has also revealed a wholesome sentiment against it, and a powerful and wide spread demand for reform. The burden of proof is upon the officials. It is for them to show that they are employing the best means of suppressing, or minimizing the vicious resorts whose existence they do not deny.

The forces of righteousness are aroused, we repeat, and it is but a step from rally to organization. The forces are in sufficient strength and leaders are not lacking.

---

### *Oh, Consistency Thou Art A Jewel*

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(Editorial from Clinch Valley News.)

Mr. Yoder has been again sentenced to jail and fined, not for slandering the virtuous this time but for exposing the not virtuous. Richmond has as many open, shameless dens of vice, perhaps, as any city of its size, their location, nature and all are well known and unsuppressed, but the city don't propose to be told of it's sin. The newspapers flaunt divorce proceedings, Harry Thaw trials in detail and no body screams, but "A sudden spasm of offended chastity" rends the air when a citizen of that city cries out against its own festering, foul smelling rottenness, and puts the offender in jail. Consistency is a rare jewel in some parts of this great country. Vice and crime are jubilant and happy. They have, or seem to have the protection if not vindication, of the courts.

---

A mild mannered young man, whom one would never suspect of having any thoughts of violence, stopped us on the corner the other day and said, "You ought to get a shot gun and go down and clean out the whole police business."

---

WANTED.—A boy in Petersburg to handle *The Idea*. on a good commission basis.

Due to the pressure of work and breakdowns incident to getting started in our new location, The Ford Hotel, the largest building devoted exclusively to printing in the city, we are unable to complete the articles on Loan Sharks and other important matter which will be reserved for a future number.

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# Stories of Graft

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## In Police Department

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For the last six months stories and rumors have been coming to us concerning graft in a deal in buying horses for the police department in 1908. Finally an opportunity to investigate these rumors presented itself and below we give the facts in the case.

It appears that about April, 1908, when the police department put on extra mounted police, one P. M. Houston sold a horse to the police department for \$165.00. A police Captain and a private consummated the deal through a merchant on Franklin Street, near the market.

The horse was delivered through the merchant, who was authorized to make collection for the same.

When application was made for the pay at police headquarters, the merchant was informed that since all checks were made for \$175.00 he would have to hand over \$10.00 to make the difference. This \$10.00 was handed over and the check for \$175.00 was delivered. Now The Idea wants to know who got the \$10.00 and why it was necessary for the city to have to give a \$175.00 check for a \$165.00 horse. It is up to the police department.



# Crutchfield's Court and Other Comments

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(Contributed by a Spectator.)

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The court presided over by the "One John" is a decorous establishment, a place where many gather for amusement at the expense of the poor unfortunates. On the occasion of the recent trial of the editor of this paper there was seated behind the Justice, one on the right and the other on the left, two Solomons, lineal descendants of the man who was endowed with supernatural wisdom, and whose judgments have never been questioned, yet it doth not yet appear what they were there for, nor that their counsel was sought or their presence even recognized. From indications which convinced all unbiased observers advice was not needed, as the case had been prejudged, all protestations to the contrary but poorly concealed the facts. Well, the end is not yet.

The editor in his honest efforts to better conditions in Richmond has had very much to discourage him. Having already been heavily fined and imprisoned as a common felon, besides having civil suits to defend, having his motives impugned and vile epithets hurled against him by lurid attorneys, with an honest conviction that his path of duty was plain to defend the cause of civic righteousness which was the animating purpose from the very inception of the paper, with very few friends to render any comfort or encouragement in his efforts, you can but faintly imagine with what delight I read the editorial in *The Virginian*, that fearless, clean and superior news paper, and also the many friendly notices which that paper was so ready to publish and then the friendly expressions I everywhere hear. which

would have been so cheering in the months past. But above all the recent court trial, so flagrantly unjust, awakened the city to look into conditions which they seemed at least unconcerned about before.

Don't let the work of purifying our fair city abate till all law is enforced punctually. No compromise or subterfuge will answer. Violators of law of whatever class or station must be exposed. Very many do not take The Virginian as there are two other evening papers. So I hope you will copy the editorial referred to, and also some of the communications to that paper.

---

If your enemy, who is not of the best reputation, should come to me and tell me things calculated to hurt you, and then your friend, whom I know to be a gentleman, should come to me and deny those reports, whom should I believe?

Think of this and then remember that The News-Leader, The Times-Dispatch and The Journal have all proven themselves enemies to The Idea. Better accept their news reports with a great big dose of salts.

---

## Who Owns the Albemarle?

---

\$528.50

Due A. H. Johnson Five hundred and twenty eight dollars for payment on Stock.

March 10, 1909.

GEO. C. RUSKELL.

Mr. A. H. Johnson put up the money and ran the place. What did Mr. Ruskell, the Sergeant at Arms of the Council put up? Why was it necessary that Alderman Whittet and Sergeant Ruskell should be officers anyway.

Let him that hath ears hear what The Idea sayeth to the people-

Up in Lynchburg where everybody has known the editor for the last 25 years they are saying, "Adon went down to Richmond and fell among thieves."

---

## *Radical Methods*

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### *Some Words for the Mealy Mouthed*

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We are continually hearing those who see the great good The Idea has accomplished, saying that they can not approve of the methods of this paper nor the way the editor says things. To them we want to say that neither do we approve of their methods nor the manner in which other papers say things, and we have a right to disapprove of their easy going, genteel, conservative(?) methods, for such methods don't bring results. No one has a right to disapprove of our methods for the big reason that our methods alone are working a revolution in Richmond, which has been practiced on by easy going teachers to no avail from time immemorial.

Let those who are so anxious to censure us for our radical methods first show some results of other methods. The Big Fact Remains That THE IDEA'S radical methods have accomplished more reform in one year than the soft, genteel, easy, fraid-you-going-to-hurt-somebody methods of Richmond's hundreds of preachers have accomplished along the same lines in twenty-five years. And the preachers are by far the best people in the community, too, but they just don't use the right method,—THE IDEA'S Radical Method—that's all. Radical evils require radical remedies. Jesus called men liars and sons of their father, the devil, who was a liar from the beginning. We got our method from Him and wont accept any other method as superior. No, if you

think THE IDEA'S methods wrong, you just mark it down that the trouble is with you and not with THE IDEA. Honestly now, can you look and see how Richmond's shame and corruption is crumbling before the attacks of THE IDEA and say our methods are wrong? Scratch your thick head. Youv'e got a think coming to you.

## "Truth Hurts" "Preposterous"

To us at this distance it looks very much like a case of the 'truth that hurts.' It strikes us as preposterous. From what we have been able to gather it looks as if the Richmond police authorities are grasping at the shadow and missing wilfully, deliberately and shamefully, the substance.—South-side Sentinel.

## Too Much Truth

If Yoder is to be fined and imprisoned, and bound over to keep the peace, for criticising and denouncing a cess pool of moral corruption what should be the penalty inflicted upon the municipal officers of the city of Richmond for permitting the same to exist.

Those who are viewing the Yoder controversy from a distance are beginning to think that the chief objection to his (Yoder) pamphlet is that it contains too much of that article known as truth, pure and simple.—South Boston News.

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**THE IDEA** of you straining your eyes trying to see the COMET through glasses that do not correct your eye defects.

**THE IDEA** of you trying to see the "COMET" as you should without first consulting DR. RAYHORN, **THE EYE SIGHT SPECIALIST**, and getting glasses that will not only correct your eye defects but enable you to see as you should, but will relieve you of that disagreeable headache, nausea and nervousness, if attributable to **EYE STRAIN**.

111 East Broad St.      Office days, Mon., Wed. and Friday.



The last trial of the editor is regarded by all a farce and a travesty, but that is because some of the friends of the right SAW IT. We want to say that that trial is but a sample of what can be seen in that court any day, and it was just such a travesty that called forth the article concerning the Molloy woman's trial.

This last trial ought to show the people that our former criticism must have been a just one. We KNOW it was.

And that's not all.

Poor, friendless people of Richmond get just such deals handed them every day and no one pleads their cause except The Idea, which has fought openly for them for a year.

Go and see for yourselves. We are not the only one unjustly treated.

---

## *Werner Waking Up*

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### *Some Pertinent Questions*

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The Idea would enquire why this sudden animation of the police force in stopping the vile den of a pool room at 16 East Broad Street.

According to the papers the police admit that it has been a notorious nuisance where murder and fights and carousing and drinking and indecency and lewdness have prevailed so long that merchants have had to complain continually that decent people could not walk by the vile spot at any time of day, as one paper puts it. But now they say it must go. Why did they not say so sooner? Why did they wait until The Idea thundered for a year that the police department was rotten, until private citizens and preachers had to organize before the police even pretend to do their duty.

The Idea had faith and has faith that all things will be well after a little while and that the papers will all come across and join in the fight and finally publish to the world how we "killed the bar."

---

"None of these things move me."

# The Power Co.

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## An Incident

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The Idea Has to Deposit \$10 for the Privilege(?) of Letting the Virginia Railway and Power Co. Make Money by Furnishing Electric Current. And why?

---

The Idea has just gotten installed in new quarters and in so doing had to have electric current to run the presses.

We went to the Power Co. to have the current cut in and asked to be shown a contract.

The regular contract was shown and we asked if any initial payment were necessary and were told no. On reading the contract we found that nothing was required in advance.

When, however, we came to sign up the contract we found that in addition to the regular printed form there had been added in in writing words requiring that we put up ten dollars deposit to be held by the company till the contract was carried out. Now if this were customary with others we would have no kick coming, but since it is not and since others with no better financial standing are not required to make deposit we have a right to suspect ulterior motives and to inquire into the whyness of the wherefore of the unusual procedure.

Now be it known that The Idea has found it necessary to show up the dealings of this company and to contend for some regard for the rights of the citizens in the matter of the proposed blanket franchises which this company is asking for. This company desires an extension of the valuable street car franchises which the city has given away to them in the past. Some of these franchises are soon to run out. The company is planning to have a single blanket franchise granted them by a subservient council so that they may per-

petuate themselves in the community and obtain under our ancient councilmanic system what they know they can never hope for if they wait till the city is managed in the interests of the tax payer by a commission which is the great hope and plan of those who know how a city can be run economically.

This company will take occasion as some of the minor franchises expire to rush through the council a franchise comprising all the minor franchises before these others expire and this company knows that The Idea will oppose them in their plans as the city should not give away these valuable privileges but should sell them, as other cities are doing to the highest bidder.

This accounts for the fact that the company would gladly handicap The Idea by unreasonable and unusual demands on us and for the further fact that lawyer Guigon, attorney for the company, was in police court and exercised himself so much against The Idea at the recent trial of the editor.

We are reliably informed that it was Guigon's plan to have the editor put under heavy bond, and we know that when a certain party was arranging for our bond this same Guigon went to him and tried to discourage his efforts, thus showing that he was desirous of suppressing freedom of the press in Richmond because he knew that the acts of his company could not stand the light of day.

The Idea has every force of evil in the community to fight because the crooks and the special interests all know that The Idea will fight all manner of evil regardless of any effect on The Idea itself.

If you want your battles fought fearlessly and boldly stand by The Idea and don't let any enemy of the right fool you in to thinking that all the good The Idea is accomplishing is done for ulterior motives.

When crooks begin to be concerned about motives of others, you can rest assured that some good is being accomplished which will hurt their evil works. And yet there are some people, good people too, that prefer to believe what evil politicians tell rather than what those who oppose evil, who have no base monetary motives, say.

# Organize

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When The Idea began publication a year ago, we printed an editorial urging the formation of a citizens' league whose object should be the enforcing of present laws and the enactment of better laws, in other words, the boosting of Richmond by making it the best governed and most law abiding city in the nation.

We realized, and so stated at the time, that Richmond was in other respects a most excellent city, but that politically it was rotten, the ninety-nine per cent. of good citizens having permitted the one per cent. of evil ones to completely dominate the situation. At the time of that first agitation of the question the people were not sufficiently aroused to do anything; they as a self conscious unity were not aware of the depths of degradation to which their political affairs had descended. So The Idea began its campaign of publicity to show the citizens conditions as they existed. This the daily papers, as we then stated, could never afford to do because it would antagonize friends and political and business associates. The Idea was willing to pay the price if it could accomplish the result. One year has elapsed and tho conditions are no worse, and even not nearly so bad as they were a year ago, yet the truth has brought its harvest and Richmond is awakening from its long sleep.

The Idea therefore urges now again the formation of a non-partisan citizens league which shall stand for a cleaner and better governed city so that Richmond shall be a place fit for the rearing of our young, and from a business standpoint attractive to investors because of the fact that its revenues are wisely and economically expended and its taxes thus, if not actually, yet practically, reduced.

By all means let the solid citizenship of the capital organize for Greater and Cleaner Richmond.



## *Indecent Papers*

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Nearly every day some friend calls our attention to obscene news items or vulgar and obscene patent medicine advertisements in some of the daily papers.

These papers continue to print corrupting, obscene, vulgar, degrading, suggestive ads. for money, mind you, (prostitution of the basest sort) such ads. as no man, not even a patent medicine fakir would ever dare insult this paper by offering for publication, so well known is the policy of this paper as to clean advertising.

Yet these papers can continue this actual corrupting of the morals of the youth while mothers bring this vile stuff to the editor of *The Idea* and beg us to use our influence in stopping the sending such indecent literature into their homes for their boys and girls to read.

But our highminded chief of police permits the dirty work to go on and his delicate sense of decency is not offended because they have never shown up the chief and the police board in their true colors.

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## The Joke of the Season

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It is the joke of the season that the chief of police, who keeps in his office the likeness of several hundred lewd women whose traffic in vice he illegally protects and who presides over the police department, which permits dens of iniquity and gambling hells and obscene shows and everything else that goes to make up what the professional crook calls "a wide open town,"—we say it is the joke of the season to see this man throw up his official hands in holy horror for fear the morals of the youth would be corrupted.

We don't know how to account for it. Truly the comic must have done did it.

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If you want a first class Buggy,  
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No. 1433 East Main Street

Richmond, - Virginia

All work first class and fully guaranteed.  
Write to us for prices on Automobile Tops.

# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

## THE WAY OF THE LOAN SHARK



In Richmond a band of Salary Loan "Bankers" violates the law by oppressing the poor.

They charge, contrary to law, enormous, exorbitant interest rates which put the poor salaried man at their mercy.



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HEADQUARTERS for your sick wants; your family and toilet wants, in Drugs and Medicines

Sick Feeders, Bandages, Crutches, Rubber Water Bottles, Bags and Sheeting, Douches, Thermometers, Supporters, Trusses, Cushions, Toilet Soaps and other requisites, Delicate Flavorings and Fine Perfumery Extracts.

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200 E. MARSHALL ST.

Goods delivered anywhere in the city.

Phone Madison 1388, if busy, Madison 5272.

# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

MAY 28, 1910

NO. 22

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## Peculiar Court Procedure

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### How Pollock "Fixed Things"

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DR. LEVY said that Gilbert Pollock, counsel for dairyman Taylor, begged that he, Dr. Levy, withdraw his prosecution of Taylor before the Hustings Court on the grounds that Taylor was a poor man and could not stand the fine of \$100.00 and that after his agreeing to the verdict of \$20.00 for Taylor, thus saving "poor" Taylor, \$80.00 on Taylor's plea of guilty, he heard that Pollock got \$180.00 for his fee from Taylor.

Pollock on cross questioning Dr. Levy asked him if he (Levy) did not know that he, Pollock, had to get the warrant amended so as to leave out the "second offence" clause before he could have the judge agree to only a low fine.

We don't know what the good citizens of Richmond think but as for us something is certainly wrong when a councilman-lawyer can "fix things", as he expressed it in the investigation Monday night, with the judge, by having the warrant changed, and the small fine agreed to BEFORE THE TRIAL. Richmond is bad off and Richmond don't seem to know it. But Richmond is waking up, slowly waking up, tho the Richmond papers don't dare bring out these little points which are fraught with such tremendous consequences to our democratic institutions.

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# How Crime Is Protected

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If one will look in the window of Paolo Michelli at 410 E. Broad Street, he will see on the west wall of that bar a certificate which states that the holder, P. Michelli, has contributed to and is a member of The Police Benevolent Association. This certificate is in a frame and in a prominent position.

We are informed that a large per centage of the bar keepers of Richmond are likewise members of this organization which is an insurance order for the benefit of retired police or the widows of deceased police.

Now we are told by a man who knows of his own personal knowledge that these bar keepers call attention of policemen who would report them to the fact of this membership

and that these certificates are used to protect the bar keepers from molestation by the police.

It is not strange that members of The Police Protective Association should expect protection from the police and it is a matter of common belief that many holders of these certificates paid for the same just in order to secure leniency at the hands of the police.

## Indecent Pictures

**H**OW about the indecent, obscene and vulgar pictures of half nude women in the windows of Broad and Main Street stores?

Some of these stores have these indecent exhibitions, which are much worse than the scenes THE IDEA feebly described, strung up in profusion in their display windows where young boys linger and gaze to their moral undoing and to the incitation of their baser natures.

All this goes on with Major Werner's approval and though his attention has been called to it by the women in the papers of the day still he refuses to act.

It is all right for merchants who don't offend the police board to violate the law. It is all right for these lewd women to indecently expose their persons on Mayo Street but it is a high crime for one who has exposed the police department to tell the people these evils exist.

Wake up, Old Richmond, and get a police department that will regard the law and a justice that will be just.

## Prizes for Boys

THE IDEA will give a handsome prize to all boys who sell 20 or more copies of The Idea each week of the month of May or June. The April prizes were given out recently. About 20 boys earned a ball or a knife. Get THE IDEA at Waller's on Jefferson Ave., Church Hill; or at Abbott's, Manchester; or at The Model News Co., 513 W. Broad; or at The Idea Print Shop, 1106 Capitol St., Saturday morning from 6 o'clock on.



# The Case Against Wise and Pollock

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AS we go to print, after two sittings of the Special Council Committee appointed to investigate the rumors regarding the wrong doing of Messrs. Wise and Pollock several facts of importance have come out.

The inquiry shows:—

(1) That Wise and Pollock did sell their services to certain dairymen for \$500.00 to get them the privilege of feeding distillery swill to milk cows.

(2) That Wise and Pollock were members of the city council at the time.

(3) That Wise and Pollock never appeared before the Board of Health to get that board to “discriminate between fresh swill and sour swill”, tho they claim that their fee was for the purpose of getting the board to so discriminate.

(4) That they knew that the ordinance prohibited the use of ALL swill.

(5) And that for any order that Dr. Levy or the board might make to be legal the ordinance must be amended.

(6) That the law clearly prohibited fresh swill because, as dairymen testified, cows will not eat sour swill under any circumstances.

(7) That the objection to swill is not that it may be fed sour, but that it, FRESH SWILL, because of its condition, can not easily be fed in any sanitary manner as it is so largely liquid and in a state of easy decomposition—it gives an odor when it comes in contact with wood as in the mangers which absorb it. It must slop on the floor and walls and wood work and on the ground, where it sours and draws flies.

(7) That the dairymen paid for the right to use swill.

(9) That Dr. Levy did not grant any right or permission to use swill UNTIL the ordinance was passed.

(10) That the board itself did not grant any such permission. (So testified members Gordon, Levy and Oppenheimer.)

(11) That the payment of \$500.00 was made after the ordinance was passed.

(12) That Mr. Wise rushed the ordinance through the council by personally asking Dr. Read to present the ordinance and call for an immediate vote.

(13) That this talk about getting the board to discriminate without the ordinance being amended is bosh.

(14) That this talk about a distinction between fresh swill and sour swill is a product of the fertile brains of Messrs. Pollock and Wise and that neither dairymen nor the board had ever made the distinction before.

(15) That Dr. Levy stated that Clyde W. Saunders appeared before the board in order to get this thing arranged.

(16) That Dr. Levy's salary was raised \$500.00 just about this time.

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## WATCH AND CHAIN

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### Prize for Petersburg Boys

C. T. Jones, No. 101 W. Washington Street, will have THE IDEA for sale in Petersburg in the future and boys may get copies from him at 3c. a copy.

A Petersburg merchant has kindly offered to give a watch and chain to the boy who sells the greatest number of Ideas in the month of June. Boys, get busy! This means money for you whether you win the prize or not, and one of you must win.

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### Nerve

It takes a good deal of nerve for a young man to ask his sweetheart's father for her, but it takes more for the old man to give her to him.—Exchange.

# The Trouble and the Remedy

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It might appear that Pollock and Wise reasoned that Dr. Levy and his board could instruct their inspectors to act contrary to law just as Chris. Manning and the police board instruct the police to act contrary to law (and one board has as much right as the other so to act) and that they accepted the \$500,00 for getting Dr. Levy and the board so to act, if it did not appear that the board did not so act and that Wise himself knew that the board would not get what he was paid to give without a change in the ordinance and that he himself, Wise, actually got Dr. Read to present in the council the amendment to the ordinance and to rush it through the council.

This matter looks to us mighty bad for Wise and Pollock. How it will appear to the council committee is another question.

From the serious looks on the faces of the investigating committee it looks like we might hope for a finding that will break up such practice in the future by making an example of these men.

The trouble with the whole thing however will come after the committee makes its report. The committee can only recommend action to the council itself. The council which as a whole will not have heard all the evidence may be befuddled by smooth speeches for the defense and thus whitewash the whole affair as they so often have done in the past with the aid of the daily papers.

Here is the trouble with the whole unwieldy councilmanic system. After finding the trouble the remedy can not easily be applied. Richmond can't be run right until a small paid council elected by all the people has full power and full responsibility in all such matters.

Read that last sentence again. That's Government by Commission. Council should be (1) Small, (2) Paid, (3) Elected by all, not by wards, (4) Full Power, (5) Full Responsibility.

## Another Assistant Engineer Needed

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Another assistant engineer is needed to inspect the bad condition of paving or whatever material is used on the street railway road beds.

In many places it is ruinous to wheels and rubber tires to cross the tracks, as the Passenger and Power Co. is not required, as they should be, to run their tracks on a level with the street paving. This leaves a sharp edge to break up buggy wheels and also make a rut between the track and the paving in which wheels of vehicles are caught and twisted and broken. It appears that the Car Co. can do anything and still neither the police nor the engineer's department does anything to protect the citizens against their harmful acts.

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## The Wise-Pollock Matter

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At the third sitting of the Council Investigating Committee it developed that although the dairymen had tried to get the right to use swill still nothing was done until January this year when our old friend, Clyde Saunders, Ex-Poss of Richmond, appeared before the Health Board, and strange to say this third sitting of the investigation brought out this fact that the Board instructed Dr. Levy to draw an amendment to the swill ordinance ON THE VERY NIGHT THAT CLYDE SAUNDERS APPEARED before them and asked that it be done. Whenever the council begins to investigate they discover powerful politicians at the bottom.

Ex-Mayor, Carlton McCarthy said on the witness stand in the Saunders Libel Suit that Clyde Saunders "exerted a mysterious influence for evil" over the politics of Richmond.

It looks like his influence still exists, and will exist until the people of Richmond arise in their strength and declare for better things and pitch the whole ring crowd overboard.



# The Journal

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## Shall We Believe the Editorial or the Reportorial Columns?

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ON May 5th, The Evening Journal printed the following in its editorial column :

### IN THE SPIRIT OF "FAIR PLAY"

Editor Richmond Evening Journal:

I have read your excellent paper since first publication without missing a copy, and if you will pardon me, would like to ask you a plain, straightforward question : Do you consider language used in Mr. Yoder's publication, the Idea, vulgar and obscene, and why are you trying to down him?

### FAIR PLAY.

The Journal has a very decided opinion concerning the language employed in Yoder's pamphlet of April 23d, but in fairness to the publisher thereof, who has appealed from the Police Court sentence, The Journal will not express that opinion, certainly until the appeal has been heard in the upper court.

If reproducing, as faithfully as we know how, the evidence in the Yoder trial constitutes the offense described by our correspondent as "trying to down him" (Yoder), then The Journal is guilty. We know of no act on our part that would justify the conclusion that The Journal is "trying to down him."

Here The Journal says, "we will not express an opinion." Over on the first page, however, where everybody could see it and because it is in the news columns which people read

because they think they are getting, not the opinions of a writer, but the news of the day, this same paper undertakes to injure THE IDEA before the public and prejudice the public against it by saying in reference to this same matter that "The consensus of opinion seems to be that . . . in the name of decency the law should stop it."

That this is not the consensus of opinion is clearly shown by the many letters from citizens which this same paper and The Virginian and The Leader have printed commenting on this affair not one of which has ever given the remotest suggestion that THE IDEA'S article referred to was indecent or obscene. On the other hand, the papers have continually printed letters, sermons and editorials protesting against the action of Justice John in declaring THE IDEA obscene, and protesting against the decision on the ground that it was nothing but an attempt to suppress THE IDEA because THE IDEA had dare expose political rottenness in Richmond.

In The editorial above quoted, The Journal claims that they reproduced faithfully the evidence in the trial. That statement is absolutely false, as those who were present know that this paper put in quotations, words and sentiments which it claimed we spoke which were as far from the truth as Fiddler's Green is from Heaven. Likewise The Journal made it out that Justice John said things which he apparently never dreamed of and which we must confess were slanderous and insulting to that unblushing gentleman.

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## JUSTICE JOHN

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### Has He Changed?

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About twelve years ago, while a student at Richmond College, at the solicitation of fellow students who told us of the One John's peculiar methods of administering justice to

those so unfortunate as to appear before him, the writer accompanied by some of these fellow students paid a visit to Judge Crutchfield's court, and among other interesting incidents of that visit the following occurred, and being brief is worthy of mention here.

On the call of his name, a young man came forward and, as he approached Justice John called in a harsh manner, "Well, what are you doing in this town?" The young man answered, "I came here looking for work." "Give him ten days on the rock pile", was the quick verdict of Justice John. The young man opened his mouth to say something while the spectators opened their mouths and eyes in amazement that one should be so harshly sentenced without the semblance of a trial, while an officer pushed aside the prisoner and the next case was being called before the hardened frequenters of the court began to snicker at the "practical joke" of the inimitable one.

When we came back to Richmond again, a year ago, we were told that we should expect a great change in the police court, as the Justice had been converted and joined a church.

We heard, however, of the same peculiar kind of decisions which had distinguished his career in the past and so we went to see for ourselves.

We found the same levity, the same harshness, and, to our minds, the same injustice and disregard for decorous legal procedure that howsoever much the judge's heart has been changed, the habits of his legal mind are the same as they were twelve years ago and THE IDEA has repeatedly in the last year's time given in detail specific instances of this justice's unjust decisions. No, the old saying, "You can't teach an old dog new tricks", seems to have a parallel in the case of Justice John, whose sayings and habits of mind as far as we are able to discern are not changed in the last twelve years. It is hard to make a just judge late in life out of one whose character has been fixed by association with men of the baser sort, as was the case with this man, who for years conducted a bar room, in old Jackson ward, patronized largely by negroes of the criminal element.

# The Promotion of Policemen

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## Does Merit Win?

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OUR attention has been frequently brought to the fact that those who have been promoted from patrolmen to higher positions in the police force were so often of the hail-fellow well met variety instead of the more substantial, exact, business like variety. While young men who stood in have been pushed rapidly to the front some of the oldest and best men on the force have never been promoted at all, but though nothing can be said against them and tho they have shown themselves efficient, intelligent and of the highest character, are still serving after 20 or 30 years of hard work in their original positions as privates of the force.

THE IDEA would enquire why such officers as Crump, Talley, Vest, Shields, Duggins, and Kuhn and others, some of whom have served nearly 30 years, are still patrolling their beats as privates, while new men of untried ability have been pushed forward and promoted over the heads of these men.

If meritorious service does not win in the Richmond Police Department, what does?

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## Announcement

The Loan Shark matter is crowded out this week by the Pollock-Wise Investigation.



## Another Idea Victory

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### Red Light District Moving

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It was testified on the witness stand by C. Manning, Jr., that there were two red light districts.

We are informed that J. B. Gordon, father of Police Commissioner Douglas Gordon, who rents this place has given orders that this shall be no more. At any rate the women are on the move and some have recently located in Red Light Section No. 1. A little more light on this stupendous protected criminal evil and Section No. 1 will likewise vanish and be gone where the woodbine twineth and the whang doodle mourneth for his first love.

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## Libel Suits

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### Set for September

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The two libel suits against the Editor and the Williams Printing Co. for \$10,000.00 brought by Douglas Gordon and C. Manning, Jr. have been set for next September, in Judge Ingram's Law and Equity Court. The appeal from Justice John's decision on the warrant charging "corrupting the youth" will be set by the Hustings Court on June 6th for some day later in the month.

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## A Woman

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A woman is a person who will carry a purse two feet long, wear a hat a yard wide and trot a mile in search of a piece of lace the length of her finger.—Exchange.

# A Woman's View of Yoder

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## From The Virginian

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Editor of The Virginian:

Sir,—Will you allow a mother, who is also a “white-ribboner,” to express her opinions concerning Mr. Yoder’s publication and late trial?

I have read “The Idea” since almost the first copy, and have discussed its contents with many ladies, and all have seemed glad that some one had courage enough to attack these evils and to lay the blame for their existence where it belongs.

It is true that his word-pictures have not always been elegant and polite; but where could elegant and polite language be found to describe a thing so vile? And if found, would not its elegance and politeness rob it of its force? To do effective work the sword point must not be garlanded with flowers, not wrapped with velvet.

If leprosy existed in certain precincts of the city, would it not be foolish for any one to speak of it as merely a “cutaneous affection,” or an “irritating rash,” lest some ones oversensitive nerves be shocked, or lest it hinder business to have the truth known? and it would be just as sensible to condemn a person for calling it leprosy and picturing the loathsome condition as a warning, lest “our youth” might catch the disease by reading about it, as it is to condemn Mr. Yoder for telling the truth concerning these evils and calling things by their real names, lest the reading of them “corrupt the morals of our youth.”

This love and solicitude for the “morals of our youth” is too thin a cloak to hide the real reason for this persecution of Mr. Yoder. It is always dangerous to denounce sin in those in authority. It cost John the Baptist his head, and it came near costing St. Paul his liberty, if not his life, when his preaching endangered “the craft” of the Ephesian silversmiths. “Our craft is in danger” was there excuse for their animosity against Paul; and preaching that strikes at any nefarious traffic, whereby money is easily made, always meets with opposition.

If Mr. Yoder's publication had been aimed at the condition of things in New York or Chicago, and had hit no one here, there would have been no outcry made against obscene language and no fear felt that it might "corrupt the morals of our youth." There is an old saying that seems to apply nicely here: "It is the hit dog that howls."

It is true the description of these evils does not make pleasant reading; but do away with the evil and such exposures would not be possible. The time is at hand when "things done in secret shall be revealed," and God is back of all such revelations.

If the reading of these things will "corrupt our youth" and sully the purity of our "wives, daughters and sisters," what will the conditions themselves do for our sons, husbands, fathers and brothers who come in contact with them daily? Said a fifteen-year-old boy: "We don't have to read Mr. Yoder's book to learn of these things; we can see them for ourselves." Just think of it! And then out of "solicitude for the morals of our youth" punish him whose pen is warning against these evils and still let the evils exist, putting a premium on vice and punishing virtue!

May God pity the wives, daughters and sisters who are so easily corrupted that can be injured by Mr. Yoder's warnings against sin! Are they not in greater danger of corruption by associating with men who uphold and condone and are responsible for the existence of the evil?

This city needs a thousand Adon A. Yoders and a few Judge Lind<sup>3</sup> says. Then it needs men enough with clean manhood to say "We will have a clean city," and who will not rest until such officials are in office as shall see that the laws are enforced; and if there are no laws stringent enough on our statute books, to stir up our Legislature until such laws shall be passed—laws that make the WRONGDOING a crime to be punished, NOT THE EXPOSURE OF THE WRONG.

Oh! Christian men and women, let us not only hope, but let us work and pray to hasten the day when this city shall be a safe place for our sons and daughters, when NOWHERE within its borders may be found a place where the innocent youth and the purest and most modest maiden may not go without seeing and hearing that which brings the blush of shame to the cheek or sullies the white purity of the soul.

If the officials who are so solicitous for the "morals of our youth" would investigate some of the postal cards that are sold in the stores and sent through the mail they would find that which would do more toward corrupting morals than Mr. Yoder's warnings against sin. Cards have come to my home addressed to my young sons so full of evil suggestions that I threw them in the fire, without letting those to whom they were addressed see them.

If Mr. Yoder's methods were not the wisest, should not his motive be taken into consideration?

How differently will the Great Judge deal with us, before whom Mr. Crutchfield himself will have to appear—the Judge who looks beyond actions to motives. "By Him actions are weighed," says the Bible; and it is not wealth nor worldly honor or position that will be put in the opposite scale, but the motives that prompted the actions.

I wonder if Mr. Crutchfield would want to be judged there as he judged Mr. Yoder.

Satin would be pleased could no man be found courageous enough to attack sin and call it by name, and he knows well that smooth, velvety, flowery talk never turns any one from the evil way. That is why he rages so when some one is found who dares do battle against him. But, oh! the pity of it, when those who should set their faces like a flint against these evils are yielding themselves to his service as protectors of these same evils; and "his servants ye are to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey"

Thank God for the ministers and the noble men who have taken a stand for truth, virtue and justice! May their numbers increase!

A RICHMOND MOTHER.

Richmond, Va., May 11.

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## The Truth

---

In a few thousand years more the people of this world may tolerate the whole truth and nothing but the truth if they keep on improving.—Exchange.

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Subscribe to The Idea today; \$1.00 for six months. \$2.00 a year. Send subscription and any complaints to Idea office, 1106 Capitol St.



## Politics, Swill and Baby Food

---

SPECTATORS at the two first sittings of the Pollock-Wise Investigating committee noticed that on these occasions Messrs. Clyde W. Saunders and W. P. Leaman sat immediately behind Gilbert K. Pollock and during the investigation engaged him in conversation.

When the political influence of these men who were defeated for re-election to the City Committee "by THE IDEA" last fall, but who are still actively engaged in politics, is remembered, their presence is significant, but we did not know how significant it was until it developed that Clyde Saunders had appeared before the board to get the board to in some way have this swill fed to milch cows.

Now remember that Saunders is both a politician and a dairyman and that his partner in the dairy farm is Andy Griffith, whiskey man and milk man.

Notice how politics and whiskey get into legislation even when the question is that of the harmless temperance drink and baby food, even cow-milk.

---

IT is proper to ask if these lawyers got any fee from the distillery people for getting the "permission to feed distillery waste."

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After all, swill is swill, howsoever sweet she may be.

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Who knows but that certain politicians wanted this swill ordinance changed in order to help out the whiskey makers, those who were here and those who were coming here. It's a fine thing for them.

They don't care how many cows are made sick by it; of course they don't, when it don't even matter with them how many men they make sick physically, morally and financially by the evil ferment.

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IS NOW LOCATED AT

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IN THE OLD FORD HOTEL BUILDING  
JUST ONE BLOCK FROM THE PLACE WHERE WE ALL GET  
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BY PHONING US TODAY TO COME  
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*South Boston, Virginia*



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Surrey or Farm Wagon  
don't fail to call on

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No. 1433 East Main Street

Richmond, - Virginia

All work first class and fully guaranteed.  
Write to us for prices on Automobile Tops.

Vol. IV

June 4, 1910

No. 25

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# THE IDEA

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A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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DESPITE THE FACT THAT OUR ENEMIES  
PROPHESED THE IDEA WOULD NOT LAST  
SIX WEEKS, THE IDEA HAS BEEN PUBLISH-  
ED IN RICHMOND FOR ONE YEAR WITH  
THIS NUMBER. WE THEREFORE ANSWER  
OUR CRITICS BY SAYING---



Cock-a-doodle-doo!



ANNIVERSARY NUMBER



## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure, 'Phone Monroe 2708,

JEWELER J. S. JAMES OPTICIAN

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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

JUNE 4, 1910

No. 23

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Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

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## Dr. Levy and the Health Board

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THE IDEA for last week in summing up the evidence in the Wise-Pollock Investigation before the Special Council Committee mentioned as the last fact in that summary, "That Dr. Levy's salary was raised \$500.00 just about this time."

At that time we had only the testimony of Jas. R. Gordon to go on who made the statement on the stand. The fact seemed somewhat significant to us in the absence of further knowledge concerning the details of the raising of this salary, and yet being impressed with the highmindedness of Dr. Levy as shown in his testimony and with his excellent showing before the committee we were not willing to believe that Dr. Levy had been guilty of any wrong in this matter or that the salary raising had aught to with the passage of the swill amendment.

It therefore gives us great pleasure to state that after looking into the matter we are fully persuaded that the raising of Dr. Levy's salary had nothing whatever to do with the matters now under investigation and that it was merely a coincidence that the matter of raising his salary came before the council at about this time.

The subject had been before the various council committees for about a year and due to the red tape of our outlandish form of government it had taken a long time to get back to the council for final passage.

It had finally come to the council proper from the finance committee about a month before this time but was laid on the table for one month in order to have a larger attendance at its passage. It seems that it was unanimously passed at this time.

The Board had recommended a raise of \$1000.00 per annum but the council had cut the raise to \$500.00.

It is thus seen that the matter of an increase in Dr. Levy's salary had its origin long before Wise and Pollock were ever employed and that the two ordinances had no connection with each other.

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## ONE LAW FOR FULTON

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### Another Law for Broad Street

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### Mayor Dodges Responsibility

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LAST week the Mayor issued a letter to the Chief of Police directing that the Sunday Law be enforced down in Fulton where the members of the Fulton Baptist Church had made complaint.

In the same letter, recognizing the lawless conditions elsewhere throughout the city, the Mayor practically assured these violators of the law that as far as he was concerned they might continue to openly violate the law so long as there was no specific complaint lodged by anybody which he felt WEIGHTY enough to notice. Various citizens have complained often to the Mayor of the conditions on Broad and Main streets and he has refused to act but has in one instance directed the complainant to do police duty and make a specific charge and appear against his will against a fellow merchant for selling on Sunday.

THE IDEA has repeatedly called the attention of the Mayor to this law-breaking by even citing the names and numbers of the places violating, and the editor in person last summer appeared before the Mayor and called his attention to the flagrant and open violation of this and two other of the state laws in this city. The Mayor took no action but now tells us he will do it if the public does a little police duty and makes complaint, the very thing he and his police force are hired for.

Citizens should not be expected to busy themselves doing police duty and incurring enmities by reporting law violations, and yet the Mayor hides his violation of his oath of office behind the lame excuse that the law, forsooth, is a blue law, when as a matter of fact it is new and fresh, having been recently made more stringent by the Legislature. It is as much his sworn duty to see that this law is enforced as it is to sign and approve city ordinances, and if anything, the former is even more his duty for he has sworn to enforce first of all the laws of his state. It would be just as much the Mayor's province to say that murder or any other crime might be committed on Broad so long as citizens did not make one concerted complaint. Law is law, and duty is duty, however displeasing the duty or however out-of-date the Mayor may THINK the law is.

This is a question for the legislature alone to decide and not for an executive officer who has agreed to abide by the laws provided for his governance.

(Continued on page 14)



## Lines to the Grand Jury

---

O reverend, virtuous sages, how must we,  
 Who stand amazed your wisdom rare to see,  
 Be thankful to kind Heaven for sending you,  
 The wicked town's lost virtue to renew !

For many a day the city's been renowned  
 Because of infants dead in alleys found.  
 "Poor babe ! sexton, come take it away,  
 And let the matter drop. At whose door lay  
 The lustful crime, the heartless murder done,  
 Why trouble to find out, or fix upon  
 The guilty the disgrace they sought to flee?  
 'Tis lucky for the brat it cannot see

The kind of life it must have followed here,  
 And then we must not know too much, for fear  
 Tom, Dick or Harry, or some other friend  
 Might meet with inconvenience in the end !"

Year after year, the chosen few who stand—  
 Solemnly sworn t'enforce the law's demand,  
 Have treated certain laws as plainly writ  
 As any other laws, though scarcely fit

For table-talk, or youth's too curious eye,  
 As not included in the oath whereby  
 Commissioners and Mayor, Judge and Police,  
 Are bound before high heaven without release.

Are statutes faulty? Well, suppose they are,—  
 Is perjury a trifle? Better far

Some lack of pleasures for the lawless sort,  
 Some extra work and trouble for the court,

Until a better law can be devised,  
 Than have the truth thus publicly despised.  
 Nay, more, 'tis but too widely understood  
 That no mere care for other people's good

Makes public officers thus basely dare  
To break the oath they are required to swear;  
But slavish fear of what some boss may do,  
And knavishness less pardonable, too,

Are more than half the secret of the shame  
Of Law's sworn guardians being so to blame.  
Now comes one Yoder—self-appointed, he,  
As spokesman of the folks who wish to see  
An end of public lies, and crooked ways,  
And rampant vice, and negligence that "pays."  
Quoth Yoder, "What! How's this? What do I see?  
Virginia's laws ought to enforced be,

But here are flagrant breaches known to all,  
And officers refuse to heed my call."  
Some other deeds that mayhap break no law,  
From public gaze still willingly withdraw.

The fussy Yoder drags them into light,  
And says he's only just begun to fight.  
"What makes him act so queer we cannot tell,  
But this performance does not please us well;  
So knock his head off,—put him in the jug,—  
Do anything to make him shut his mug,"  
Say various and sundry parties hit.  
But Adon quits his fussing not a bit.

He comes right out with some things he has found  
About the dens where infamies abound.  
Not picturing them in jest, nor with a view  
To lure men to the snare, 'tis very true;  
But still he publishes the facts, the place;  
And sure, to somebody that brings disgrace.  
The Grand Jury in solemn conclave sits,  
To deal out justice as each case befits.

"Infamous places, violated oath,  
We're used to,—so just pass them over, both.  
But, Chief, go catch this wicked Yoder man;  
To ruin the country's his deliberate plan.

Innocent youth could never, never know  
 Of Mayo Street, till Adon Yodered so!"  
 Thus the demand of Justice wins the day,  
 And the Chief Captain hastens to obey.

—Contributed.

# Bribery.

## Sec. 3745 Code of Virginia

If any executive, legislative, or judicial officer accept in this State, or if, being resident in this State, such officer shall go out of this state and accept, and afterwards return to and reside in this state, any gift or gratuity, or any promise to make a gift or do any act beneficial to such officer under any agreement, or with an understanding that his vote, opinion or judgment shall be given on any particular side of any question, cause or proceeding which is or may be by law brought before him in his official capacity, or that in such capacity he shall make any particular nomination or appointment, he shall, upon conviction, be confined in the penitentiary not less than one nor more than ten years, and shall forfeit his office and be forever incapable of holding any post mentioned in section one hundred and sixty-two." (Any governmental office, city, county or state.)

This is the law which Mayor Richardson referred to when on the witness stand he testified that when he ordered the investigation of the conduct of Messrs. Wise and Pollock he thought the act in question was a "criminal offence."

The question is, should these men be confined in the penitentiary for accepting \$500.00 "with an understanding that

(Continued on page 11,

# How Commissions Run the Cities

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From The Literary Digest.

**W**HEN 60 American cities, representing over 3,000,000 people, decide that the management of their affairs is henceforth to be a business proposition and not a political game, and when they actually adopt, in its essential features, the plan of "government by commission" in order to achieve this desired result, one "splendid victory" has, according to Everybody's, been won for the American people. In the current number of this magazine Mr. Charles Edward Russell shows the results in five municipalities which are governed by commissions, and points out what he believes to be the advantages of this "method of common sense and democracy" over the ordinary "thumb-hand" management of civic affairs. We are reminded that, as a rule, the American city is "unsightly to look at, plundered by corporations and political ruffians, misruled where it is not corruptly ruled, and bungled, boggled, and manhandled in all its most important affairs." Moreover, "in things visible and invisible," the city government "certifies to its own abominable failure; for most American cities are badly paved, badly lighted, badly built, badly sewered, have an expensive water-supply and a police force that thrives often upon an alliance with vice, sometimes upon an alliance with both vice and crime."

This, then, is a "fair summary of the situation in most of the American cities." But there are some 60 odd conspicuous exceptions, 30 of which have "tested the new idea sufficiently to furnish a basis for estimating what modern and sane methods are worth when applied to a modern municipality." Of these, five typical cities are selected for ex-



amination: Galveston, Houston, Des Moines, Sioux Falls and Cedar Rapids. Under the plan adopted by the two Texan cities, Galveston reduced its annual expenses nearly one-third, saved \$1,000,000, and became, in every way, "a better city to live in." Houston, in its first year under the new plan, paid off \$400,000 debt and reduced the tax-rate, while making the greatest public improvements in the history of the city. The Galveston plan destroyed the old ward lines, and placed the government in the hands of five men with practically autocratic power. About all the people could do was to defeat a commissioner for reelection when his term expired. An improvement on this plan was devised by former United States Senator Pettigrew, of South Dakota, and passed by the legislature of that State. While all power was vested in five commissioners, each in charge of a department of the city's affairs, and elected by the city at large, there were added certain features, making them subject at all times and in all ways to the will and direction of the people. These features—the referendum, initiative, and recall—"obliterated the one fault in the Galveston plan and put all responsibility definitely upon the people." This plan is now in apparently successful operation in Sioux Falls, S. D., and, in a slightly modified form, in Des Moines and Cedar Rapids, Ia:

"In Des Moines, the general disgust with the old method of government was so great that when the question of adopting the new was being agitated, placards appeared in the streets bearing only the words: 'It Can't Be Any Worse Than This,' and all men knew and appreciated what was meant. After a year of the new plan, the Des Moines Register and Leader, a newspaper of conspicuous fairness, reviewing the advantages and disadvantages of the innovation, concluded that 'Des Moines is, in fact the most economically and most honestly managed city of its size in the Middle West.' . . . . ."

"Cedar Rapids affords probably the best and clearest illustration of the practical workings of the new idea.

"In the first year of business democracy the city retired \$60,000 of bonds, enlarged and improved the park system, increased the police

force, repaired or rebuilt the fire apparatus, enlarged the fire service, built a new fire station, and fitted out the policemen and firemen in new uniforms. It cleaned the streets (for the first time in the city's history), repaired more old pavements and constructed more new ones and with them built more sewers, watermains, sidewalks, curbs, and roadways than had ever been constructed in any previous year in Cedar Rapids. It began a new bridge across the Cedar River, and bought an island on which the city is to erect handsome municipal buildings out of the savings effected by the new system and without the issue of a dollar's worth of bonds."

The source of this great change Mr. Russell finds to be in the essence of the commission plan. Instead of being chosen by wards, or districts and acting only for their constituencies, the agents of the community are employed under the new plan to transact its business and execute its will. And each commissioner is simply running his own department to the best of his ability for the people who employ him. "No foolish, meddling board of aldermen, no ignorant and vicious political boss, no party, no convention, no campaign committee, no outworn system of office tenure stand between him and his employers." Altho these experiments are young and may by some be deemed not conclusive, the writer enumerates several achievements of the new plan which he considers "fairly well established." These are:

"1 It abolishes party politics from local affairs.

"2. It eliminates the boss, the grafter, and the political machines.

"3. It views a municipality as a great business enterprise and provides accordingly for its effective management.

"4. It recognizes definitely the failure of representative government and substitutes therefor a system of democracy; it recognizes the fact that there is no wisdom but collective wisdom.

"5. It establishes direct responsibility for every public act.

"6. It seems to be swift, efficient, economical, and adapted to a rational community in the twentieth century.

"7. It abolishes a raft of useless offices, sinecures, jobs, and political rewards, and substitutes organization, method and work."

# The Loan Sharks

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## Richmond Infested with Bold Violators of the Laws

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In this and the next issue THE IDEA will show how the Salary Loan Sharks, of which there are several concerns doing business boldly in Richmond, charge from 200 to 500 per cent. interest on loans to poor men, and then when these men see how they are being robbed and refuse to be further mulcted they are intimidated into further troubles by threats of publicity and fear of the courts, where, as a matter of fact, these sharks will never go.

If the Commonwealth's Attorney will push this matter, we will give him sufficient evidence to rid Richmond of this, one of the greatest evils of the day.

"We hand you the money without delay, at a rate lower than offered by any other loan company in the city."

The above is a statement on the folder of 4 pages issued by The Capitol Loan Co., 606 E. Broad St., Richmond, Va., and distributed broadcast all over the city. The copy before us was placed under the writer's door. This company recently loaned a young man ten dollars and took his notes payable in one, two and three months for \$4.50 each, thus charging \$3.50 interest on \$10.00 for the average time of the loan 2 months, which is at the rate of 210 per cent. (figured thus. 2mo. at \$3.50 equals \$21.00 for 12 mo. or 1 year. \$21.00 is 210 per cent. of \$10.00).

At the end of the 1st month, January 1st, the young man could not pay the \$4.50 due, so he was told his loan would be renewed in full by the month by paying \$2.00 interest. He paid \$2.00 and gave a note for 1 month for \$12.00. Each month found him in a similar fix, so they renewed his note each month including the present month on the payment of \$2.00 interest each month. He has therefore, on a loan of \$10.00 paid already \$12.00 interest and the Capitol Loan Co. holds his note \$12.00 still. This is interest at the rate of 240 per cent. and his principal, \$10.00, is now \$12.00, yet due.

(Continued next week.)



## BRIBERY

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(Continued from page 6.)

their vote, opinion or judgment" should be given on any particular side of any question, cause or proceeding, which was or might be brought before them in their official capacity."

Since lawyers might disagree as to the interpretation of the statute, we will not give an opinion on this point but leave it for the reader to decide.

We will, however, state that it is clearly the intention of the statute to keep legislators from being influenced in getting any legislation passed by having previously accepted money for services which would be incompatible with their duty to vote on any measure before the council.

Messrs. Wise and Pollock clearly stand guilty of a breach of morals and ethics in, using thier influence, while they were councilmen, with Dr. Levy, who is appointed by and whose salary is fixed by the council, to get him to make a ruling, whether he had a right to or not, without the amendment of the ordinance, on the matter of feeding swill.

There is the crux of the whole matter and Wise and Pollock by their own admissions stand guilty.

The council committee should not be guided in their finding by a consideration as to whether the legislature had happened to make a law fitting the offence but should determine whether these men have offended.

We should have men in our legislative bodies not like Senator Lorrimer, of Illinois, who, after admitting his wrong doing, tries to get off because there is no law to fit his case, but men who shall be so highminded as to refuse to accept any fee for any service which would unfit them for performing their sworn duty before that body, or for any service as attorney before any board created by the council of which they are part.

The council cannot afford to countenance such acts by permitting these men to retain their seats in that body.



## Prize for Petersburg Boys

T. C. Jones, No. 101 W. Washington Street, will have THE IDEA for sale in Petersburg in the future and boys may get copies from him at 3c. a copy.

A Petersburg merchant has kindly offered to give a watch and chain to the boy who sells the greatest number of Ideas in the month of June. Boys, get busy! This means money for you whether you win the prize or not, and one of you must win.



See article on page 10, entitled Loan Sharks.

# More Blind Stupidity

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ATTENTION of the city tax payers is called to the absurd way their money is wasted. North Sixth Street from Leigh to Baker was equal to any cross street in the ward. This street is lightly traveled as its terminus is a gulley but two squares farther north. In this street are many vacant lots, and the improvements consist of one story shacks, a wood yard, etc., yet this street was ploughed up through a deep gravel surface one foot or more thick to be replaced by granite blocks, and the gravel was carted away to be placed in other parts of the city, where property values are tribble what they are in this section. We will cite a number of localities where gravel and clay are the only material employed adjacent to the most highly valuable and taxed property in the city. Commencing with Fourth Street North and South of Broad, west of Fourth, there are many such streets, mud in winter and rainy seasons and dust in summer and dry seasons to the damage and annoyance of this great retail business section. If any real explanation can be made either by the engineering department or by the selfish ward representatives who regard it their only duty to get all they can for their ward regardless of what or where the real need is, and absolutely indifferent to the city's best interests as a whole. Surely such insane management calls for some more intelligent method of city government. If there is any place where a commission is needed to manage municipal affairs it is Richmond. Our councilmen in rare instances give their time and make the sacrifices they do from patriotism or the public good, but to subserve their own private interests or protect some special line of business

which they know needs men on watch. We can but hope that there will be an early awakening to the real condition, a condition where the office holders are our masters instead of our servants as contemplated in their selection, a condition of the officers and the politicians manipulating matters to their own liking. Events of late but demonstrate that they are overreaching themselves, and thus hastening their elimination from power. So mote it be.

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## ONE LAW FOR FULTON, ANOTHER LAW FOR BROAD STREET

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(Concluded from page 3)

It looks like a case of a servant putting himself above his master.

The law as the expression of the people's will is the master and should be obeyed, above all by one employed just simply to execute the law.

Now the question is not whether the Mayor thinks one should not take a drink of soda-water on Sunday. The law has settled that as far as selling is concerned and it is his to obey.

Now, we have no narrow fool notions about what ought to be the law, but we have some decided opinions as to the duty of a mayor to enforce all laws whatever he may think of their advisability. If the Sunday law is not a good one, let the legislature change it. But so long as it is on the books let it be enforced. The only way to get rid of a bad law is to show it up by enforcing it.

This alone is law.

The Mayor's position is anarchy—no law.

To our mind it is preposterous for an executive officer, and especially one who is a lawyer, to arrogate to himself the right to decide whether a law is good or not and act on his individual conception. He has entirely exceeded his

powers and his police department has over-stepped the bounds of the law in this as in the permission of the open red light social evil and the selling of whiskey on Sunday.

The papers tell us we are to have a "sane" observance of the Sunday laws.

That simply means no observance. Nothing tickles law violators more than to have newspapers or preachers to keep quiet or stand for "sane law enforcement" for they know if the leaders will go no further than that they can rest assured that they can do practically as they please.

No, the attitude of the executive towards all crime should be "Thou shalt not." All else is confusion.

## Why the Lions Did Not Eat Daniel

The colored preacher was telling his people about Daniel in the Lions' Den and he said:

"When Daniel drap down mongst de lions de all come up to him and smelled him and says, 'We want meat; we don't want no back bone.'"

We are glad to notice that Justice John has taken a trip through Locust Alley (on May 29th). It is not Justice John's business, however, to break this up. Let the Mayor and the Chief take this trip and then just read their oaths, that's all.

We call especial attention to the verse, elsewhere printed in this number, written, on reading that the Grand Jury, composed almost entirely of politicians, had "instructed" the Chief of Police to swear out a warrant against the editor of THE IDEA, by one whose learning and poetic ability speak for themselves.

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## Newspapers and Preachers

---

A preacher came at a newspaper editor in this way: You editors do not tell the truth. If you did you could not live; your newspapers would be a failure. The editor replied: You are right and the minister who will at all times tell the truth and under all circumstances tell the whole truth about his members, alive or dead, will not occupy his pulpit more than one Sunday, and then he will have to leave town in a hurry. The press and the pulpit go hand in hand with white-wash brushes and pleasant words, magnifying little virtues into big ones. The pulpit, the pen, and the gravestone are the great saint-making triumvirate. And the great minister went away looking very thoughtful while the editor turned to his work, and told of the unsurpassing beauty of the bride, while in fact—well, she was as “lovely” as all brides ought to be.—Exchange.

### WHY?

“A wise old owl lived in an oak;  
The more he saw the less he spoke,  
The less he spoke the more he heard.  
Why can’t we be like that old bird?”

## Prizes for Boys

---

THE IDEA will give a handsome prize to all boys who sell 20 or more copies of The Idea each week of the month of May or June. The April prizes were given out recently. About 20 boys earned a ball or a knife. Get THE IDEA at Waller’s on Jefferson Ave., Church Hill; or at Abbott’s, Manchester; or at The Model News Co., 513 W. Broad; or at The Idea Print Shop, 1106 Capitol St., Saturday morning from 6 o’clock on.

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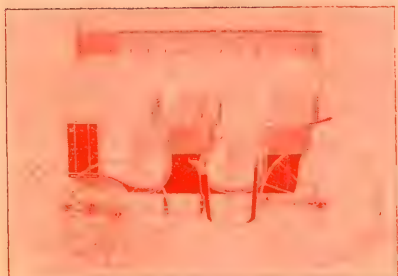
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Vol. IV

June 11, 1910

No. 20

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# THE IDEA

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A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Pollock and Wise

Immoral Plays

The Red Light Evil

Salary Loan Sharks

The Trial

Hot Talk About Richmond Courts

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## The Loan Sharks

Richmond Infested with Bold Violators of  
the Laws

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(Continued from last week.)

OTHER legitimate Loan Companies charge 6 per cent. The Capitol charges 240 per cent. Therefore the Capitol Loan Company's statement at the head of this article is absolutely false.

THE IDEA has information concerning such illegal interest rates charged by The Richmond Guarantee Co., 108 N. 9th Street, The Tidewater Loan Co., corner Franklin and 9th Street and D. H. Tolman on Main Street. They will be exposed in another number.

Within a few days recently two deaths were reported in the Richmond daily papers as the result of the Loan Sharks'

work. In the one case a Washington victim of the loan shark committed suicide. In the other case an Alabama negro victim shot two loan sharks. Next week we will quote the law and expose other dirty methods.

### DRIVEN TO SUICIDE BY "LOAN SHARKS."

#### WASHINGTON D. C. MAN FORCED TO BORROW FROM ONE TO PAY ANOTHER.

Washington, D. C., April 11.—The double clutch of a "loan shark" combination by which he was forced to borrow money from one to pay another led George W. Chandler, a train dispatcher, to commit suicide according to a statement issued today by Coroner Nevitt. Chandler borrowed a small sum from a "ten-per-center," and soon found that his debt was increasing so rapidly that he could not meet it. He shot himself Thursday and died last night.

It is probable that Chandler's case will be cited in the present effort to drive out hordes of "sharks" who prey upon the department employes and every month collect large sums of government money.

### ALABAMA ALWAYS FAIR.

Driven half crazy by a white 53 1-3 per cent. loan shark, an Alabama negro shot two of them dead. Sympathy with the debtor prevailed, and the shooter has not been lynched. There is still a sense of fair play in Alabama.—Brooklyn Eagle.

## Duty

---

I slept and dreamed that life was beauty;  
I awoke and found that life was duty;  
Was then my dream a shadowy lie?  
Toil on, sad heart, courageously,  
And thou shalt find the dawn to be  
A worthy light and truth to thee.

—ANONYMOUS.

# *Public Acts of Public Servants Public Property*

---

About a year ago we stated that the Idea would always regard the public acts of public servants as public property but would have nothing to do with any man's private affairs.

Now since some people seem unable to distinguish between public and private let us state that we not only regard official acts as rightful subjects of criticism but the law has always held that public acts whether official or individual are proper subjects for criticism. The Idea draws the line when it comes to PRIVATE affairs but will not hesitate to expose the PUBLIC affairs of officials.

Likewise some do not seem to understand the difference between personal affairs and private affairs. Even official and public acts are nearly always personal acts and no paper stops because an act is personal. Every day the papers deal with persons and without personalities no paper would be readable. The daily papers however go further and pry into the private affairs both of private individuals and public officials. The Idea does not. It has repeatedly refused to touch on the private affairs even of those who were guilty of public wrongs.

The Idea will not hesitate to be personal because when a wrong is done some person is responsible.

Don't get an impression that the Idea ever has or ever will deal with strictly private affairs of anyone. We always keep not only within the limits of the statute and common law but regard that newspapers and publications should have higher ideals and also keep within the limits of the strictest moral and ethical codes.

No we won't unearth private affairs but woe unto those whose acts of wrong doing become of a public nature for then we propose to expose them and if need be harshly, at least harshly enough to accomplish the good result desired.



# Immoral Plays

---

In the last several months complaints have come to us from mothers and fathers as well as from preachers and others concerning the indecent exhibitions permitted to go on on the stages of the Broad street 10 cent shows which are patronized so largely by women and children in the afternoons and evenings.

We have made it a point to attend several of these performances and have been astounded at the immorality openly permitted before the eyes of the people of the city.

We have scarcely attended a single one of these plays which did not have either some subtle suggestion tending to lead the young into the most criminal vices or some indecent exposure of the person by some unnatural female actor.

In the past two weeks we have attended two of the largest of these houses and in both cases we found a most degrading performance, and these performances are much worse than they were a year ago.

On these occasions we saw things unfit to describe even before old people and certainly this paper will not attempt to detail the lewd scenes before those of tender years.

At the Bijou two weeks ago after an exceedingly immoral act three young women near us got up and left "disgusted" as they stated.

As this article was being written the following clipping from a daily paper was handed in by a preacher. It describes an act at the Bijou. If the Idea had first printed it we might have to be sentenced to jail.

"And then appeared 'The Girl With the Auburn Hair.' Marjorie Davis this is the name of the dancer, took the house completely off its feet. Attired in something thinner than the stuff that dreams are made of the dancer fortified herself against cold weather with flesh colored tights and a wealth of pleasant smiles. If the cool weather continues she will need a raincoat.

The Police permit such performances in Richmond Broad Street theatres but must send to jail The Idea Man if he for sooth, tells what he actually sees, and he wont tell all he sees, the women and children have the permission of the police to see that for themselves.

A business man and large advertiser wonders if these theatres have to pay as much for advertising space as the business men who are building up the city. It is astounding how much space in the daily papers is consumed by these ads which do all they can to tare down the city and its institutions.

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# Pollock and Wise

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## Guilty, Say the Committee

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### The Times-Dispatch Whitewashes

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Let the Council Dismiss

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Although the Times Dispatch, on the day after the report of the Investigating Committee was made, came out in large headlines at the top of the first column of the first page in these words "Pollock and Wise Held Guiltless." It is evident from Mr. Pollock's indignation that he does not regard the report as holding him "guiltless."

"The character of Mr. Wise and myself have been assailed" The Journal reports Mr. Pollock as stating.

The Idea printed on May 1st, before the Investigating Committee was appointed, "they most likely have violated no law, but a man may be guilty of a very serious breach of ethics and morals and and be within the limits of the law."

The committee on June 5th reported, "We deprecate, as hurtful to the efficient and faithful representation of a constituency, for members of either branch of the Council to engage their services for compensation, as was admittedly done in this case, to obtain permission of such

officer for the suspension of the enforcement of an ordinance duly enacted by the legislative branch of the city government.

### MAKE IT UNLAWFUL

We are satisfied, and so report, that such practice should be made unlawful, so that hereafter there may not be a recurrence of such conduct as has been developed by the evidence in this case. One hurtful effect, at least, in this particular case, was, by the confession of the gentlemen themselves, to incapacitate them for duty in voting on the ordinance in question.

To our minds the committee failed of its full duty in not recommending to the council some action as to Messrs Wise and Pollock. They report their findings and make recommendations as to locking the stable in the future but make no effort,—to carry out the figure,—to recover the stolen horse.

It strikes us that men who while members of the council accept a fee to get an ordinance of that council nullified as they confess by one whom they elect to office are unfit for further service in that body and the committee should have saddled the responsibility and recommended their dismissal. It is up to the council to take action, not the action Mr. Pollock demands, but dismissal from the body.

If the papers would do their duty to the public and let their headlines tell truth there would be no difficulty in having a clean city, but so long as the daily papers try to cover up and whitewash the council will do nothing. The papers realize that public opinion rules the day so they manufacture public opinion to suit themselves by concealing the truth under false headlines.

If Justice John desires to render any lasting service to the city of his birth let him "suppress" The Times Dispatch for telling fibs instead of attempting to put the Idea out of commission for telling the truth.

Meantime it is up to the council to dismiss Pollock and Wise and up to the people to elect others in their stead on June 14th, which is next week.

Money is the thing that lubricates the machinery of commerce, and makes lusty lads become rash and roguish rascals. Richmond has many men who are money mad. — June Jenks.

# *Grand Stand Play*

## *by Major Werner*

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### *Lula Penn Arrested*

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At last our doughty chief of police has been aroused to action by The Idea. Word went forth on last Saturday that a raid should be made Saturday night and run in all the illegal whiskey sellers in the Mayo street red light district.

But some how or other the news leaked out and so we are told, the order was rescinded. Sunday night however a little raid was made and the women being on the lookout and the officers not being as anxious as they might have been, for we are informed that others sold Sunday night as usual, only one woman was caught. This woman Lula Penn, an old offender and reputed mistress of a certain ring politician with evil reputation, was hailed into court and fined.

Now in the past Judge Chrutchfield has been jailing those caught selling whiskey without license, but in this case the offender was freed because as he stated this practice had been permitted so long it would not be just to put this woman in jail and not get the rest when they had not been molested in the past. The Justice thus admitted that it is known to the police as The Idea has all along contended that whiskey is daily sold in these fast houses.

In other words it was a confession that we have openly permitted this so long that we are to blame and therefore should not put all the blame on the unfortunate caught.—The big question is tho who are we? that have been permitting all this law violation so long, and the answer is, Major Werner and the Police Board, the persistant protectors of these evil women, the unrelenting foes of those who would expose them.

Our police department is certainly in a bad fix, but they will get right as The Idea shows them the way.



# PERSONAL

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## The Past and the Future

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### The Idea To Become Bi-Weekly

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**T**HO THE IDEA was born in Lynchburg 4 years ago next July 4th, still The Richmond Idea is only one year old. This number is the first in the second year, THE IDEA having started June 6th, 1909.

Looking back over the year which has been a most strenuous one we can say that we have no complaints to make as far as results are concerned. We expected to have to pay for the results attained. The editor has been twice assaulted in person and often maliciously assaulted in the daily press, he has been twice arrested on warrents sworn out by those who would suppress him, once in the night, when his private papers were illegally taken from him and he was hurried away in a patrol wagon and locked up in a station cell, before he could get in communication with bondsmen; his bond was made excessive; he has had five suits entered against him for libel; he has been fined and sentenced to jail three times; for lack of funds he has accepted one sentence unjustly given and has one still pending in the courts; his life has been threatened openly in court while his assailant was not even reprimanded, he has been illegally put under bond to keep the peace, the lower court being reversed in one case and the other will be likely reversed this month. He has been subject to misunderstandings, slander and abuse, and desertion by friends but has quietly stood his ground, violated no law and today is glad he has done what he has because of the many evidences of the good accomplished

which daily come to his attention. The standard of honor and integrity among public officials has been raised; policy gambling has been almost entirely wiped out, two noted political bosses have been downed, and most important such a wholesome public interest in civic affairs has been aroused as will ere long ensure a more economical and better arranged administration of the city's government and more exact law enforcement. Despite innumerable burcens which he has had to bear which he can not mention here he feels that the fight has been worth while, and he can look back and say not only is he "not ashamed" but is glad the work was undertaken, and today, tho he may never be understood he is firmly convinced not only that his work has been worth while, but he has adopted the only method which could bring results, namely; plain statements of the unvarnished truth in language intended to be understood.

#### NOW AS TO THE FUTURE

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As many know, and certainly as we have always found, THE IDEA can never be a howling financial success tho our enemies have lied in saying we were in it for the money. While it would be perfectly right for us to edit a paper for money just as it is to run a shoe store for money, still with our experienced ability to make money in other lines we'd be a fool to edit THE IDEA "for money" when editing it means loss of money and persecution by so-called courts of justice and infamous slanders by unprincipled daily papers. But we need not dilate on such things. There are some people who are incapable of understanding one who does not measure his actions by the base standard of the dollar.

Just as the dog can not understand the intellectual pleasure one gets from reading Plato so also these strivers after filthy lucre can not appreciate nor even conceive of the pleasure of doing something which will have its weight for good after the doer has been forgotten, unless it brings a financila reward and certainly unless it don't cost a price or a cross greivous to be borne. But to the point. The editor is

worn out. The work has been so taxing that he is physically unable to continue it on its present strenuous scale. It has already made him neglect proper care in wording and construction. It has robbed him of time to sufficiently inform himself by reading to give the people a paper worth while. He must confess that often his pride has been hurt by having to put out a paper which was such a botch from the grammatical and literary standpoint.

His time also has been so taxed that the financial end has not been looked after. The Idea has not paid, mainly because too little attention has been given to that part of the work. All the advertising we now have has come to us, we have not gone after it. But for the free gift of friends who have come to us begging the privilege as they express it to "help the good work along" THE IDEA would have had to change long before this. Some how or other as money has been needed some kind friend often unknown to us has come to us or has brought or mailed a contribution of one or five or twenty or more dollars and thus the work has continued. The editor does not feel it right to continue on this basis. He has come to the point where he has got to make a living and pay his debts.

The Idea in the future will therefore be published every other week and the editor will thus have time to look after his advertising and his printing and hopes to make enough out of them to keep the Idea going whether it in itself pays or not. The yearly subscription list has not been pushed, most all of the circulation being weekly payments to boys. The three, six and twelve months subscriptions will be doubled in length of time unless the subscriber requests otherwise.

By regaining his former strength and by having time to get out of the ruts and resume his reading on which a writer must depend to keep his paper fresh and interesting and up to date, the editor hopes to make THE IDEA not only more pleasant to the reader but worth more as well.

We'll pay some one a neat cammission to get ads. for us. Write or phone The Idea Print Shop, 1106 Capitol St., Phone Monroe 2708.

# Extracts of an Act of the General Assembly of Virginia

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Approved March 12, 1906

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Sec. 4. If it be agreed in writing by the borrower and the lender at the same time the loan is made, the lender may charge for investigating the security or title and closing the loan, a fee of not more than fifty cents where the amount borrowed is five dollars or less; not more than seventy-five cents where the amount is more than ten dollars; and not more than one dollar where the amount borrowed is more than ten dollars and not more than twenty dollars; and not more than one dollar and a half where the amount borrowed is more than twenty dollars and not more than thirty-five dollars; and not more than two dollars where the amount borrowed is more than thirty-five dollars, which said fee may be charged, if so agreed, upon original loan, or any renewal thereof; provided, however, that no fee whatever shall be allowed on any renewal or extension, which occurs within sixty days from the time of making the loan or from the time of the last renewal, and provided further, that the fee provided for in this section shall not be charged on any renewal made after the expiration of four months from the date of the original loan, but that all renewals made after said four months shall be at fees not greater than one-half of the amounts herein provided. And provided further, that any loan which shall be made between said parties within ten days after the payment of a pre-existing loan of approximately the same amount, shall in all cases be construed prima facie to be a renewal of said pre-existing loan. NO ORIGINAL LOAN SHALL BE SPLIT UP INTO SMALLER LOANS IN ORDER TO INCREASE THE FEES ALLOWED; but if two or more loans be made at or about the same time between the same parties they shall be construed to be BUT ONE ORIGINAL LOAN, unless the contrary clearly and unequivocally appears.



## *Ball Room*

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### *For Out-Cast Women and Drunken Men*

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We are reliably informed that on Fourteenth street there is kept by a woman of large means a large house of ill fame which numbers among its attractions almost a dozen girls and a magnificent ball room where at midnight drunken men and debauched women make merry in lewd revelries all with the knowledge and fatherly protection of our wise police board who insult our legislature by telling us that they won't break up this district because they don't think it wise to molest this "necessary" evil in its brazen effrontery of decency and law.

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## THANKS.

Anonymous as well as other contributions have been received by us for defense in the courts and to be used in the work we are undertaking. We have been so swamped with work that time has not been taken to express our sincere thanks to these good friends known and unknown who have been so kind to us.

A large batch of mail lies unanswered on the table for want of time to answer it. Meantime thank you, and again, thank you.

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## Boys In The Red Light District

Down in the red light district it's a frequent sight to see messenger boys taking messages into these disreputable places. Here we are told that many of them are enticed into sin by these vile females while those not personally induced to criminality are lured by what they see in the vice and degradation which is so openly permitted to tempt them.

In the name of the boys of the city THE IDEA protests against the "policy" of fostering crime which The Police Board has adopted.

## "Let the Galled Jade Wince."

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## "Sounds Like Yoder Is Doing Something"

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(Editorial Augusta County Argus.)

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We got this from Ricomond dated May 30th: "Justice John Crutchfield today fined thirty-nine women and thirty-six men \$10 and cnsts each and 90 days in jail on the charge of not having a visible means of support. The arrest took place on Saturday in a raid by the police and the disired end is to clean out Cunningham alley.

The fines each amounted to \$10.70, the total being \$892.50 while the total of the jail sentences amounts to 18 years and 6 months." This sounds to a man up a tree like Yoder, the editor and publisher of the pamphlet called "The Idea. A Sign of the Times," who has twice been fined and sent to jail by this same "Justice John," the "Uncle Joe" of the police court of Richmond, is doing something as a reformer. He demands a cleaner city and says so in "spade" words, no matter what official he shows up as derelict in his duty. A man who spends much of his time in Richmond recently told us thar Yoder with his little paper had credit for having broken up the "soiled dove" business in the lurid light district of lower Broad street. Go ahead, Yoder, give 'em "hot stuff." "Let the galled jade wince!"—June 4, 1910. Augusta County Argus.

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## Prizes for Boys

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THE IDEA will give a handsome prize to all boys who sell 20 or more copies of The Idea each week of the month of May or June. The April prizes were given out recently. About 20 boys earned a ball or a knife. Get THE IDEA at Waller's on Jefferson Ave., Church Hill; or at Abbott's, Manchester; or at The Model News Co., 513 W. Broad; or at The Idea Print Shop, 1106 Capitol St., Saturday morning from 6 o'clock on.

# Hot Talk About Richmond Courts

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## MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE

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"After cool, quiet consideration, we give it as our opinion that in the last five or ten years there have been few or none of the juries that have decided the cases tried in Richmond or Manchester that can be cited to have been strictly legal juries. First the juries are not properly summoned, and next they are compelled by their fear of the court officers to bring in a verdict that will suit without any regard as to what is right and just in the case."

The above from a recent editorial in the Richmond (Manchester) Bee contains language about as strong as that usually employed by Yoder.

There is something radically wrong in dealing with lawlessness in the Richmond Courts, or the Bee has slandered all who are connected with the Courts from the judges down. The idea that the juries are compelled by their fear of the court officers to bring in a verdict to suit, without regard to what is right or just, is one of the gravest charges that we have ever read in a Virginia newspaper. . . . .

—Editorial in South Boston News.

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## Squirrels and Rats

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About the only apparent difference between a rat and a squirrel is the tail. If one will notice some of the squirrels in the capitol square which have lost the fur from their tails one will have to take a second look to convince him that the caricature of a squirrel is not really a rat,

Now since so many of these squirrels are without a distinctive caudal appendage the question arises as to why these curtailed "varmints" anyway.

We understand that some \$300.00 or \$400.00 a year is appropriated by the state for the keeping of these squirrels and yet from the looks of the vermin infested creatures their box homes must be foul and unfit for habitation.

If these rodents were properly cared for there would be no vermin to infest them and they would be beautiful to see instead of being without fur as a result of parasites.

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# The Trial

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*Date Not Yet Fixed*

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*Witt Will Not Sit*

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On June 7th, Judge Witt announced that he would not sit in the case of the Commonwealth vs. A. A. Yoder on appeal from Justice Crutchfield's fine and jail sentence for "corrupting the youth", and that Governor Mann would be notified and as soon as a judge is designated by him and a date fixed for the appeal in the Hustings Court the editor would be notified. It is expected that this trial will come off about the 20th or 25th of the month.

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## Truth the Invincible

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Truth, crushed to earth, will rise again—

The eternal year of God are hers;

But error, wounded, writhes in pain

And dies among its worshippers.

—William Cullen Bryant.



# SUNDAY THEATRICALS.

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Notice the immoral Bijou asking the Mayor for the privilege of giving religious or educational performances on Sunday. If there is anyone who can believe them capable of educating any one let him read elsewhere in this number the article on immoral plays.

No it is clear that they merely desire to increase their weekly patronage by getting the public "educated" into coming into their evil house.

A house that will permit such shows as they have permitted for the last three weeks is vile and Ex-Mayor McCarthy would not have tolerated it a minute.

## WATCH AND CHAIN

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### Prize for Petersburg Boys

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T. C. Jones, No. 101 W. Washington Street, will have THE IDEA for sale in Petersburg in the future and boys may get copies from him at 3c. a copy.

A Petersburg merchant has kindly offered to give a watch and chain to the boy who sells the greatest number of Ideas in the month of June. Boys, get busy! This means money for you whether you win the prize or not, and one of you must win.

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Let us print your tickets for your Sunday School and Moonlight excursions. The Idea Print Shop is doing some of the prettiest printing you ever saw. Phone us today for prices. Monroe 2708.

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*See us first*    ❀    ❀    ❀

See us before placing your order for printing  
PHONE MONROE 2708

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IN THE OLD FORD HOTEL BUILDING  
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BY PHONING US TODAY TO COME  
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All work first class and fully guaranteed.  
Write to us for prices on Automobile Tops.

# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES



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5 CENTS A COPY

\$1.00 A YEAR

Being some sermonettes published Bi-Weekly for the common good at  
Richmond, Va., by Adon A. Yoder, editor, publisher and printer  
1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Virginia.



## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure, 'Phone Monroe 2708,

JEWELER J. S. JAMES OPTICIAN

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We are showing special good values in

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HEADQUARTERS for your sick wants; your family and toilet wants, in Drugs and Medicines

Sick Feeders, Bandages, Crutches, Rubber Water Bottles, Bags and Sheeting, Douches, Thermometers, Supporters, Trusses, Cushions, Toilet Soaps and other requisites, Delicate Flavorings and Fine Perfumery Extracts.

- A. H. ROBINS, -  
200 E. MARSHALL ST.

Goods delivered anywhere in the city.

Phone Madison 1388, if busy, Madison 5272.

# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

JUNE 25, 1910

No. 25

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$1.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## A Remarkable Letter

THE following letter, written from the Jefferson Hotel by a visitor who claims Texas as his home, shows such a remarkable insight into local affairs and is so straightforward and to the point that we print it in the hope that it will arouse the young men of the city to such action as will ultimately purify old Richmond of its foul political ring.—  
Editor.

June 13th, 1910.

Who I am, what I am, why I am is nobody's business.

Thanks for the applause; likewise the grunts.

Now, I have no grouch against any one nor has any one against me. I do not care if Richmond goes back to what it was when grandpa Byrd staked it out, or the granite

boulders under the city's soil turn to gold and diamonds overnight. I am neither a scavenger nor a bird-of-paradise.

For fifty years I have known Richmond; for forty I have known that it has been owned, body, soul and entrails by a corrupt political ring more powerful in its ramifications than the old Tweed ring of New York City.

Look around you; see how the politicians live; what they have; but how and where did you get it, gentlemen? If you are honest, your hands not soiled, your souls not tainted, then stand up in meeting and tell us where did you get it? The few who have no property are either simple fools, men who drink and gamble their money away, or, perhaps, honest men.

"J't'accuse", said Zola when he forced a revision of the Dreyfuss court-martial.

How many of your judges are not at least occasional drunkards? How many sit on the bench without the familiar odor of booze on their breath? Is a half drunk man capable of dispensing justice? Is he?

Would any railroad allow an engineer to take out a train if he were half or wholly drunk? A man may be drunk with liquor, malignant malice or servile fear to his political boss.

Is it impossible to hope for regeneration? Has Richmond fallen too low for redemption? It is the young man's crusade. We must appeal to the young man and woman to force the powers of a moral RESURRECTION!

Richmond's political road is worn into ruts. Honesty's wagon is either mired in the chuck holes of corruption or the road is so dusty that the driver cannot see the impending collision ahead.

Boys, you have got to cut a new road; you have got to hew your way into leadership; you have got to "ring out the old and ring in the new."

The sooner you have a house cleaning the better.

Don't attempt to reach extremes; just reach out and sweep with all the power at your command. You may leave some of the filth behind but you will take away the big lumps.

The tumor is full of corruption; it must be amputated; it is a nasty job but you are the doctors and it is up to you; and if you are not moral cowards you will do it, too!

The legislature should pass an act that any decree rendered by any court of justice or equity shall be null and void if the judge on the bench has had a drink of any alcoholic liquor or has been under the influence of a narcotic drug within 24 hours next preceeding the opening of the trial.

This is no total abstinence talk, because the writer takes his drink whenever he cares to do so, which is seldom.

Nothing can save Richmond from the Ring except government by commission. Galveston, Texas, has tried it—it is a success.

Richmond, like Russia, is in the hands of despotic absolutism, in the hands of a machine, which, for political prestige, claims to be the Democratic Party; but in truth is only the INQUISITION BY THE FORTY THIEVES and their satellites.

Arise, ye freemen, and do your duty.

K. LAMITY BILL.

## Lessons In Richmond Geography

Ques.,—Where is the Home of the Governor of Virginia?

Ans.,—Just across the street from The Idea Office.

Ques.,—Where is the office of the Mayor of Richmond?

Ans.,—Next door to the office of The Idea where we'll do your printing on short notice, see? The Very Idea!

Phone us to call for your printing. We have time to do it quickly now and can promise you up to date clean neat work on paper that talks and with inks that show up. You need some visiting cards? Huh?

Be sure and read the article on page 4. It may open your eyes both concerning juries and concerning barrooms.



# Obscene Pictures In Francioni's Bar

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Large Oil Paintings of Nude  
Women Decorate Hall Walls  
Yet Police Do Nothing

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FRANCIONI'S place, the entrance front of which is a bar with a restaurant attached, is on Broad Street, between First and Second Streets. Adjoining the main room is a hall on the walls of which are two large oil paintings, one, about ten or more feet tall by about five feet wide, which portrays a perfectly nude woman holding a large snake in her arms and entwined about her form.

The serpent, however, in no sense acts as a dress to conceal.

A few feet away in the same room is another painting representing a woman reclining on a couch. This painting is perhaps four by eight feet or more. The figure is devoid of dress, except as to a gauzy veil which might as well not be there.

When the writer visited this place, which is called by some a "political" bar, whatever that may mean, a city official was being served at the bar, and Mr. ———, who is frequently seen at city hall in the court rooms, where he serves on juries, and who was on the jury which, according to instructions of the court, awarded damages against THE IDEA in the Saunders libel suit, this man was sitting in the bar room taking life easy.

Moreover, we are reliably informed that this Mr. Gardner stood out for large damages while five out of seven were in favor of no damages or, when the court ruled otherwise, of just nominal damages, one dollar or so.

It is thus seen, to diverge from the subject of this article, that tho 5 out of 7 jurors may think a man innocent, still the opinion of the judge may decide him guilty and make him suffer accordingly. Moreover, it is also worth noting that it is this practice of frequently putting on juries frequenters of bar rooms that makes people say that in Richmond "juries are fixed", and those who have had experience with the courts here are continually coming to us and telling us by all means never to consent to letting a Richmond jury decide a case for us, as it is dangerous to our interests just because of such possibilities.

But to return to the subject: This place, run by Francioni, which is decorated with obscene and vulgar and lewd pictures, is permitted by Major Werner, while THE IDEA must be suppressed for trying to make the police enforce the laws against obscene and indecent expositions by arousing a sentiment among the people in favor of law enforcement by telling them just how the police wink at the violations.

Major Werner says we must not tell what they permit to exist for fear THE IDEA, the only paper in Richmond whose object is the moral betterment of the community, will corrupt somebody's morals, and yet Major Werner, whose officers inspect these bar rooms and make reports as to conditions, permits this flagrant law violation.

Truly it seems that whiskey men can do anything in Richmond. Ex-Mayor McCarthy had a bar room broken up for keeping such pictures on the wall.

Besides, a bar is the last place under the sun that should be permitted to display such nudity.

The fancy of a man inflamed with drink runs wild, and he sees, not only double, but in distorted vision, these unlawful sights which have no effect for good on even a sober man.

Let Major Werner enforce the law against obscenity in the bars and red light districts and THE IDEA will of its

own sweet will quit "corrupting the youth" and fold its tents of exposure of wrong and retire to more pleasant and profitable employment.

Meantime THE IDEA will stand, as it has always stood, for law enforcement, despite the attempt of interested parties to becloud the issue by side questions and by discussions as to the wisdom of the laws and such tommy rot as "necessary evils." The term is in itself a lie. A necessary thing cannot be evil. Those who use the term admit it is an evil and thus admit it is "unnecessary" or else their brains are addled.

And the moral to our rambling story is this: That in Richmond the whiskey men and the criminal dealer in the virtue of women are permitted by the police department to continue in the most heinous crimes, while the one who dares tell on them in the interest of the morals of the youth of the city must be suppressed and jailed and assaulted and insulted and harassed and so maligned and libelled that the freedom of the press is but a name and the seal of the Old Dominion is forgotten in Richmond, proud home of rebellion and revolution against rotten and oppressive governments.

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## *People Rebuke Pollock.*

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JUNE 14th, was election day and following it the papers of the city in giving accounts of the election stated that Pollock got as many votes as the other candidates in his ward, and actually gave the number of votes supposed to have been polled.

Now THE IDEA learns these published reports were false and that as a matter of fact Pollock ran behind the rest of the ticket in Madison Ward, altho those voting knew he would be elected as there was no opposition. Voters openly scratched Pollock's name and stated at the polls they would never vote for him, and yet the papers try to make

it appear that the honest voters of Madison Ward who cast their ballots on the 14th, all voted for Gilbert Pollock. Then these same papers turn around and tell us that the people get just as good men as they want or deserve when they know that the people get just as evil men as these papers want them to have, because it is impossible to elect good men to office without the aid of these papers.

Yet these same papers actually make good men believe it is of no use to try to elect good men to office by making them believe that Gilbert Pollock got as many votes as others on election day.

No; the cause for bad government in Richmond is not the voter, but is right in the offices of the owners of The Times-Dispatch and The News-Leader and The Journal, which, as watchmen, have given false reports of the night, and when the people have cried out to be warned, if any enemy approached, they have refused to give the warning, because they were in "cahoot" with the enemy; and the enemy has come and done his deadly work, and thus the blood of the people will be required at the hands of the watchmen. Truly the papers have many sins to answer for.

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## Richmond Rotten at the Core

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Dr. McDaniel last Sunday preached against the evils of the city. The Times-Dispatch reported the morning sermon but would not dare print the evening one which "said things."

He said; "It is not pleasant for one to speak so plainly about the deplorable conditions in the city that we love, but to keep silent is a sin. To submit without a protest is to stifle conscience and betray a trust. The conditions which I saw convince me that Richmond is an apple beautiful without but rotting at the core. The social impurity and moral degradation are indescribable and unspeakable."

Since writing the article on page 13, we learn that the movement started to do something for better Richmond has not been dropped, but will yet wake up and clean up the political and moral rottenness of the city.



# Reputation Assassinated by News-Leader

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Paper Publishes Libelous Report Concern-  
ing Prof. Sturgis, Principal Chimborazo  
School, and Then Refuses To Make  
Correction After Seeing Mistake

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Recalls Times-Dispatch's Unwarranted Publication  
Concerning The Idea.

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PERHAPS the one evil, which has caused more unhappiness and bitterness in Richmond than any other outside of the whiskey evil, is the false publication evil of some of the Richmond daily papers. These papers do not hesitate to blacken, irreparably, a man's reputation, with no foundation, whatever, for their outrageous treatment, if by so doing they can make a yellow journal story that will sell their paper to a sensation loving public.

Just recently The News-Laeder, under date of June 9th, published, in bold headlines, at top of the first page a story concerning the alleged brutal actions of one of Richmond's most high-toned gentlemen teachers, Prof. Sturgis, the principal of the Chimborazo High School.

One can imagine the feelings of Prof. Sturgis on Thursday afternoon when he read the "scoop" in the evening paper charging him with being a brute, i. e. with having "inflicted brutal punishment," altho it appears that The News-Leader got its version of the affair from the city hall and not from a single soul that had witnessed the whipping unless it relied on the boy whipped.

Certainly none of the teachers of the school were interviewed nor was the Professor himself. A prominent merchant who knows Professor Sturgis intimately, describes him as being a most mild mannered, hightoned gentleman of exceptional ability and gentility, and a man of most refined and sensitive nature.

Yet The Leader published to the world that this man was "brutal", and then, when, the next day, it was found that Prof. Sturgis had done his duty and the father of the boy stated to the school board that he was satisfied to let the matter drop, because the charge was not true; this same paper absolutely refused to correct its false report. We learn that the paper has been acquainted with all the facts and that they know that Prof. Sturgis was not guilty as they painted him, and yet not one word have they said in retraction, but are willing to let this damaging report, which may actually ruin, financially, this man, go uncorrected, all because they prefer not to admit they have done wrong.

Thus do these molders of public opinion in Richmond make or destroy a man at will regardless of the untold suffering such false charges will continue to give to a wife and children and the man himself.

There is another little incident in connection with this affair which is worth noticing, and that is that it is reported that Gilbert Pollock and W. P. Leaman and John Crutchfield together made an examination of the back of the boy. Let him that hath ears hear and understand for hereby hang many tails,

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Get ready for the glorious 4th of July.

# Nolle Prossed

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Which, being interpreted is, "We admit that we gave you a dirty deal and we want to get out of it before we lose our jobs by it."

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## Case Against A. A. Yoder Quashed In Hustings Court, June 21st.

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ON last Tuesday, June 21st, Commonwealth's Attorney, Folkes, arose in the Hustings Court and stated, "After carefully considering" the case of the Commonwealth against A. A. Yoder he had decided to NOLLE PROSS it. It will be remembered that this is the case in which the defendant was charged by Chief of Police, Werner, on warrant, with circulating matter "tending to corrupt the morals of the youth."

In Crutchfield's court, after a complete farce of a trial in which the only witness introduced showed how maliciously he, the chief, had blundered, the judge instead of throwing the case out of court, very harshly vented his spleen against the defendant in an utterly uncalled for tirade and entered a fine of \$100, a jail sentence of 30 days and a bond of \$500 to keep the peace, altho, even if the editor had been guilty, he had not broken the peace and therefore could not legally be put under bond to keep it. On that occasion Commonwealth's Attorney, Folkes, made a bitter speech denouncing the defendant. Now he comes forward and admits that he had no case.

Now we want to know what excuse this man has to offer for having a man sentenced to jail and heavily fined when the commonwealth had no case against him. We want to know why he did not "carefully consider" before the harm was done. The damage has now been wrought and it has

been published to the world that the editor of this paper is an immoral man whose writings should be suppressed because they "corrupt the youth." Why did he not "consider" before harming and actually hurting the health of an innocent wife who has spent three weeks in bed, largely as a result of that unjust action of "The Commonwealth" (God save the commonwealth) in the persons of Louis Werner and Minitree Folkes, who would suppress THE IDEA because it showed them up as violating their oaths of office.

THE IDEA would enquire whether it is not high time to rid the community of men who would do such a foul deed and that too in the name of the state of Virginia whose proud history they have shamed.

THE IDEA would enquire whether John Crutchfield should longer be permitted to preside over the police court where through malice or ignorance he can blight the reputation and destroy the liberty and happiness of those so unfortunate as to have to appear before him. THE IDEA would enquire, how about the innumerable cases of injustice of this court which THE IDEA has exposed and the countless number which we have not even heard of who have daily had grievous burdens to bear and long jail sentences to endure because they did not know how to appeal or had not the money to employ a lawyer.

In the name of all that is decent THE IDEA calls on the citizens today, as it did long before its editor had ever felt in person the weight of unjust decisions, to blot out forever this outrage which, in the name of justice, is daily perpetrated in the police court of Richmond.

Let no one think that THE IDEA alone is persecuted. The stench of this court has spread all over the nation.

We do not know whether it is the state of his health or the disposition and habits of a lifetime, (most likely both) that has rendered this man incapable of being a just judge. We have been sent to jail for a former criticism of this court and we stand today to say that every word of that criticism was true, and, as occasion may demand, we will reiterate it, and we propose to stand for the right just as long as breath shall last however much we be lied against by newspapers which fear the truth, or courts or police or officials whose acts cannot stand the light of day.



# Extracts of an Act of the General Assembly of Virginia

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Approved March 12, 1906

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Sec. 5. Any interest charged by the lender to the borrower in excess of the present legal rate of interest, or any fee, fine or charge whatever charged by the lender against the borrower, whether for negotiating a loan or for commissions, examinations, attorney's fee, or any other bonus, or additional charge whatsoever, to those allowed in section four of this act, shall be considered as a payment on the principal of said loan, and the same shall be credited with the additional charge or excess, and the license of the person, firm or corporation making such additional or excessive charge may, in the discretion of the Circuit Court of the county or Corporation Court of the corporation wherein such business was licensed, be revoked.

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Two old cronies went into a drug store in the down town part of New York City, and, addressing the proprietor by his first name, one of them said:

"Dr. Charley, we have made a bet of the ice-cream sodas. We will have them now, and when the bet is decided the loser will drop in and pay for them."

As the old fellows were departing after enjoying their temperance beverage, the druggist asked them what the wager was.

"Well," said one of them, "our friend George bets that when the tower of the Singer Building falls, it will topple over toward the North River, and I bet that it won't."—Ex.

# A Question

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In the name of many men who have asked us the question, we desire to put the question to the committee of five appointed by the meeting at Seventh Street Christian Church sometime ago,—What has become of the movement protesting against municipal evils?

There are many who would like to know. We know that the members of that committee have been seen by the enemy, but we are not yet willing to believe that a few smooth words have converted them to silence, as The News-Leader reports.

In the name of the great body of the people who desire better conditions here, we desire to state that the moral forces of the community are looking to that committee TO DO SOMETHING, and they do not believe in pleasing the enemies of righteousness by waiting for "a more convenient season."

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## WATCH AND CHAIN

### Prize for Petersburg Boys

T. C. Jones, No. 101 W. Washington Street, will have THE IDEA for sale in Petersburg in the future and boys may get copies from him at 3c. a copy.

A Petersburg merchant has kindly offered to give a watch and chain to the boy who sells the greatest number of Ideas in the month of June. Boys, get busy! This means money for you whether you win the prize or not, and one of you must win.

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Let us print your tickets for your Sunday School and Moonlight excursions. The Idea Print Shop is doing some of the prettiest printing you ever saw. Phone us today for prices. Monroe 2708.

# BLACKMAIL

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## D. H. Tolman and Other Loan Sharks Who Violate the Law

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THIS Salary Loan business is the most ingenious and relentless system of blackmail and extortion appearing in our present civilization. It is a crafty advantage of the need of honest men taken by unscrupulous money-lenders. . . . Every salaried man and every salaried man's wife should read and remember.—Editorial in Pearson's Magazine.

D. H. Tolman, who conducts a salary loan business on Main Street, is called "The Emperor of American Salary Loan Sharks." Starting with a small capital he has become a multi-millionaire by his illegal business of charging exorbitant interest on loans to poor men.

"One of Tolman's sons, who conducts the Cleveland branch, was convicted of usury in the Ohio Circuit Court, and was only saved from the penitentiary by a successful appeal to the higher courts."

Tolman operates offices in sixty-eight cities and the papers and pulpits of many of these cities are exposing him and fighting against his unlawful taking advantage of unfortunate people who are deceived into borrowing money from him.

His seductive advertisements lure men into his offices by promising "easy payments", "without security", etc.

One Richmond young man, in need of money to pay doctor's bills, etc., borrowed from Tolman's agency \$31.25 and was induced to sign five notes, to be paid monthly, for \$9.45 each.

On later calculating the cost he found that he was paying more than 200 per cent. per annum. Now there is a clear cut law in Virginia against this robbing the poor, but the average poor man can't get a lawyer to help him out of trouble, so when he refuses to pay the exorbitant rate he is quickly haled into court, and because he is not prepared to fight, the loan shark wins and the poor man's furniture is sold to pay the rich robber of the poor.

Just the other day, four separate judgments were rendered in the civil justice's court in the city hall against poor people in favor of these extortionists.

This is occurring almost daily in the city of Richmond, and yet none of the daily papers or religious papers are taking the side of the poor and oppressed and exposing this awful condition of affairs. Men commit suicide and women and children starve for want because their earnings go to these wealthy robbers who, somehow or other manage, tho doing an unlawful business, to win their cases in court.

And remember that perhaps fifteen of these concerns are doing a thriving business in this city.

When a salaried clerk gets into the meshes of these men's nets he has to keep paying for fear if he does not he will lose his position by having his boss know of his borrowing. And young men who have been posted tell us that foremen in some of the large establishments of this city act as agents of these illegal money lenders and when a man is turned off and goes to the office for his pay, he finds the loan shark already there with his note, which is deducted from his salary before he gets the balance due him.

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## WHY?

There are still some people in Richmond, we are told, who condemn the writer because, before going to housekeeping he stopped at the Park Hotel, the only prominent hotel in the city which did not have a bar room in connection with it.

Wonder what they would have said if we had stopped at Murphy's.



# *Atlanta Fights Loan Sharks*

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Dispatches from Atlanta tell of the crusade against salary Loan Sharks being carried on by the press and the pulpit and the police. Why can not Richmond do likewise and put away these blood suckers that infest the city and live off the poor from whom they wrest their scant earnings.

Let the daily papers and the preachers take up the fight.

The Idea has done the pioneer work but needs the help of the preachers and the papers.

We'll pay some one a neat commission to get ads. for us. Write or phone The Idea Print Shop, 1106 Capitol St., Phone Monroe 2708.

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## *Do You Shave?*

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Dull Safety Razor Blades sharpened 2 1-2 cents each; Old Style Razors Honed and Set 15 cents each; Carving, Butcher and Pocket Knives 10 and 15 cents each; Scissors Ground 10 and 15 cents each; Razors concaved 35 cents; Clippers Sharpened 35 cents.

All Kinds of Edged Tools Sharpened by Experts.

WORK GUARANTEED

THE "SHARP-O" CO.

608 East Main Street

# We Want Your Printing



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IS NOW LOCATED AT

*1106 Capitol Street*

IN THE OLD FORD HOTEL BUILDING  
JUST ONE BLOCK FROM THE PLACE WHERE WE ALL GET  
FAKED, VIZ.: THE CITY HALL

*Help the Work of Cleaning Richmond*

BY PHONING US TODAY TO COME  
BY AND GIVE YOU PRICES

PHONE. MONROE 2708

# MOTOR CYCLES

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ONLY PLACE IN CITY THAT HAS  
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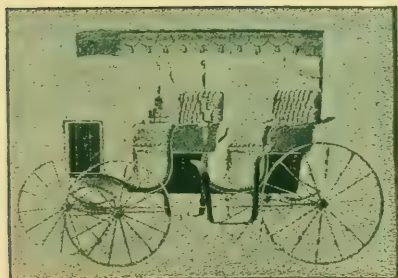
Phone Madison 3945

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## *Barbour Buggy Company*

WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS

*South Boston, Virginia*



If you want a first class Buggy,  
Surrey or Farm Wagon  
don't fail to call on

*Hoenniger-Sizemore Co.*

No. 1433 East Main Street  
Richmond, - Virginia

All work first class and fully guaranteed.  
Write to us for prices on Automobile Tops.

Vol. IV

July 9, 1910

No. 26

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# THE IDEA

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A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Who Lied?

Folkes and Crutchfield Scored

Dr. McDaniel's Sermons

Police Board Guilty

Robbing the Dead

Jury Duty Degenerated

Richmond Justice

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5 CENTS A COPY

\$1.00 A YEAR

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Being some sermonettes published Bi-Weekly for the common good at  
Richmond, Va., by Adon A. Yoder, editor, publisher and printer  
1105 Capitol Street, Richmond, Virginia.

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7th AND MAIN STS.

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*Diamonds, Watches, Jewelry,  
Silverware, Cut Glass, Etc.*

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Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure. 'Phone Monroe 2708.

HEADQUARTERS for your sick wants: your family and toilet wants, in Drugs and Medicines

Sick Feeders, Bandages, Crutches, Rubber Water Bottles, Bags and Sheeting, Douches, Thermometers, Supporters, Trusses, Cushions, Toilet Soaps and other requisites. Delicate Flavorings and Fine Perfumery Extracts.

- A. H. ROBINS, -  
200 E. MARSHALL ST.

Goods delivered anywhere in the city.

Phone Madison 1388, if busy, Madison 5272.

# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times.

VOL. IV JULY 9, 1910 No. 26

FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$1.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

## Who Lied?

ON MONDAY, June 27th, The Times-Dispatch had an editorial entitled "Sunday in Richmond", in which that paper took occasion to refer to what it termed "the well nigh complete cessation of all worldly employments", while the writer of these lines, tho he knew an exactly opposite condition existed, but still, not having fully realized just how far the law was openly violated, made a tour of inspection and found, to his utter amazement, not only drug stores and confectioneries wide open and employing extra help to supply the young with tobaccos and drinks, behind shaded doors and windows, but he also found grocery stores flung wide open and proprietors in their week day garb selling anything and everything absolutely regardless of the law and with no attempt at concealment. In spite of all this The Times-Dispatch editorial stated further, "We do not believe that there is a town in the country where there

is a better disposition to obey the law, . . . where there is less regard for the carnal, and where men and women live more uprightly."

Truly the garrulous old lady of Bank Street must be losing her eyesight or her mentality must be affected by the mint juleps which her whiskey paper delights so much to praise.

We hate to believe she deliberately lies. In the very same issue of the "Supreme" is an account of Dr. McDaniel's sermon in which he gives some of the causes of what he termed one week before, the moral ROTTENNESS of Richmond. Dr. McDaniel, and Dr. McDaniel with the canny Scottish name, is regarded as a conservative and not a sensational preacher, finds the city ROTTING AT THE CORE and her streets filled with "lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God", while the big Richmond paper, with its imported editor, finds a CESSATION OF WORLDLY EMPLOYMENTS and a disposition to obey the law and little REGARD FOR THE CARNAL.

Now, "Somebody falsified to me" and knowing what we do, it was not Dr. McDaniel. We believe in boosting the town in which we live, but we don't believe in descending to deceit to do it. When a paper deliberately discredits a preacher of the gospel by false, contradictory editorials, thus undoing the work of the ministry, then it is time the people were consigning the paper and its editor to limbo or South Carolina or some other hot place.

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## Newspaper Liars.

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Some newspaper men are terrible liars. In writing of a cyclone out west one of them said it turned a well inside out, a cellar upside down, moved a township line, blew the staves out of a whiskey barrel and left nothing but a bung hole, changed the day of the week, blew a mortgage off the farm, blew the cracks out of the fence and what was still more unreasonable, knocked the wind out of a politician.—Sandy Valley News.



# Richmond Justice

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IT NOW seems that the little leaven which Editor Yoder, of The Idea, hid in the Richmond measure of meal is leavening the whole mass. The mustard seed which Yoder planted has grown into a tree toward which the birds are flocking wherein to build their nests.

Yoder it seems, according to a communication to the Richmond Journal, was "jailed for a truthful (an undeniable verity) description of most deplorable conditions existing in the city" (Richmond). The communication further states that "the officers of the law who permit such conditions go scott-free," and characterizes this part of the proceedings as "absolutely absurd, amusingly ridiculous, inconceivably inconsistent," etc.

To the legal mind it would seem far stranger that Yoder should be judged by one of the very men whom he had accused—should be convicted on the "opinion" of the very man whom he had charged with being derelict in his duty. For it was on the "opinion" of Richmond's chief of police that the language Yoder used in one of his charges against that chief ought not to be printed, that Yoder was convicted. From the accounts of that trial which come to our notice, we cannot learn that the truth of Yoder's charges was ever denied.

But Yoder has done his work. The better element has united. A mass meeting is to be called. The voice of the people is to be heard. Meanwhile it behoves all parties who have prominently appeared on the stage of action, to remember that no man should be punished for the opinions of another, and that—

"No man should sit in judgment in his own case."—Ex.

We'll pay some one a neat commission to get ads. for us. Write or phone The Idea Print Shop, 1106 Capitol St., Phone Monroe 2708.



## Jury Duty Degenerated

### In Richmond, Men Make Jury Service A Business

Since the article in our last issue, referring to Mr. Gardner as being frequently on the juries of the City Hall Courts we passed by the Circuit Court room June 21, and on looking in, whom should we see but Mr. Gardner sitting on jury in that court?

Now, get these incidents together. Mr. Gardner was the man on the jury that tried the Saunders libel case who stood out for large damages. Mr. Gardner is often seen in city hall court rooms, apparently waiting for a job. Mr. Gardner was sitting in Francioni's bar, taking it easy, when the writer inspected that place and discovered the indecent pictures described in the last number. Mr. Gardner was on jury duty June 21st, in the Circuit Court.

We are reliably informed that Mr. Gardner is very often on Richmond juries.

Now, it is just this frequent serving on juries, of such men as this, who hang around city hall and apparently have nothing else to do, that has brought Richmond courts into disrepute, and has coined the phrase, "professional jurors."

THE IDEA wants to register a kick against having a suit for \$25,000 decided against him by a man of this kind.

We do not think it necessary to draw any further inferences from these facts, but we will state this; that there are those here in Richmond, who say that Mr. Gardner, who evidently, from his actions frequents these courts for the money there is in it, could not afford to decide in a way displeasing to the powers that be.

The state of affairs depicted in this article is, perhaps the most serious THE IDEA has yet been called upon to disclose,

It is high time that the sovereign citizens of the city were demanding of the papers of the city, to whom they look to post them as to their affairs, that they cease their criminal negligence before our courts are entirely, as some already say they are, in the hands of special interests and crooked politicians.

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# A Hot Potato

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Folkes and Crutchfield Scored

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“Not Fit To Hold Office”

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“Spineless Richmond Papers.”

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“Fatherly Maliciousness of Justice Crutchfield”

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(The Bedford Bulletin of June 30th, has some pointed things to say about Richmond officials and papers. It would be well for Richmond people to read carefully and see how outsiders look on the lawless procedure of the capitol city.—Editor.)

“The case against Adon A. Yoder has been nolle prossed in the Richmond Hustings Court and dismissed. As stated in the Bulletin some time ago, this case has always looked like police persecution. Yoder said things the officials did not like, and they started out to use their official power to break him up. He had also said things the spineless Richmond papers did not like and they stood by and rooted for the “breakers”. The whole affair, however, never had a

leg to stand on, and after all the great speech of Commonwealth's Attorney Folkes in the Magistrate's court, and after all the "fatherly" maliciousness of Justice Crutchfield in hammering a man with an excoriating lecture while the police figuratively held him pinioned without power of retaliation, they have dropped the case like a hot potato. Either the prosecuting attorney wilfully persecuted Yoder before the justice or he was wilfully false to his duty in his statement in the Husting Court. In either case he is not fit to hold public office and remain a servant of the people, and the police judge is in exactly the same position."

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# Police Board Guilty

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## Rough House On Mayo Street

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Some time since, a stranger with a large roll of money on his person, dropped into Richmond and was lured into a house, on Mayo Street, operated by one Laura Turner.

The story goes that while there he was doped and beaten into insensibility and robbed of his roll of money, amounting to between three and four hundred dollars. When he came to his senses, he was pretty badly battered up, and it is said he could not "navigate" at all but had to be removed to a hospital, where, after about three weeks, he sufficiently recovered to get out on crutches and find a magistrate, before whom he swore out a warrant against one Laura Turner for selling whiskey without a license and for maintaining a disorderly house.

So in execution of the warrant, said Laura Turner was arrested, but before the case came to trial the stranger man had disappeared, and rumor has it that he got his money

back before his departure. It is pointed out that it is cheaper for a keeper of such a place to pay for such losses sustained when there is danger of a trial than to submit to a case in court, for these women know that according to law they have no right to operate and that it is but by the kindly permission of the police department that they can exist and flourish off the bounty which wealth pays for professional crime. Meantime the case has been postponed from time to time and no one expects it ever to come up. Thus the real facts will not be made public.

Now, the point to be made is this; that THE IDEA'S claim that this red light district is nothing but a hot-bed of crime is true; that instead of lessening crime this district only furnishes a place for crime to flourish; that the protection, in crime, of these women, by the police board, contrary to all law, is not only a violation of their oaths of office, but is a direct sanction of all manner of devilment, and is a bid for vice to increase its hold on the community.

These women are not only openly engaged in the most debasing vice a woman can fall into, but they put the police department in the position of openly encouraging murder, robbery and felony, because in breaking these latter up they would have to be breaking that which they are licensing and thus acknowledge themselves in error. So what do we find? We find these other crimes committed and no one punished and the protected dive still enjoying the fatherly protection of the police board, headed by the mayor, all of whom took a solemn oath to break up all such houses of ill fame, is thus morally and legally to be held to account for all the kindred crimes committed with their acquiescence.

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## Writer's Cramp

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"Pa, what is writer's cramp?"

"It's being cramped for money, my son. All writers suffer from it."—Red Hen.



# Rich Undertakers.

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Robbing the Dead.

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Richmond Undertakers Trust.

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Undertakers Increase the Cost of Funerals  
By Getting In the Council and then  
Ask about Six Prices for Burial  
Caskets.

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WHILE all who have had occasion to deal with the undertakers of Richmond realize that they have to pay an exorbitant price for burial caskets, still since deaths are not frequent occurrences in any families they do not know that in Richmond there is practically an undertakers' trust, the members of which, including nearly all the establishments of the city, maintain by agreement, excessive prices for funerals.

It is a well known fact among those who have investigated that all of the big undertaking establishments charge 125 or more dollars for a \$50.00 casket.

Four of these big undertakers are members of the city council and that is considered by many as a reason for the fact that no laws are enacted regulating the cost of funerals and curtailing these excessive fees. Just recently one undertaker drew up, and got another to present in the council, an ordinance which is still pending in that body, increasing the charge for hack hire at funerals from \$3.00 to \$3.50.

Almost every way one turns in looking into Richmond

law making, one finds special interests in the council who go there largely, and often solely, to have laws made to suit their special business. There are many such laws on the Richmond statute books which practically legalize robbery on the part of special privileged classes.

There is on the table before us a newspaper clipping, showing how a municipal court jury in Chicago cut in two the charge of an undertaker who was getting rich off the ignorance of the poor as to the cost of caskets. The undertaker admitted that a casket costing \$53.50 was billed to mourning relatives at \$400.00.

We are informed that here in Richmond the same kind of practice goes on and it is getting so that a man can't afford even to die.

Likewise ugly rumors are going around concerning the burial of the dead from the hospitals.

A certain councilman, who is an undertaker, gets nearly all the business from these places and in some instances even before the relatives can have any say whatever in the matter. We have made some careful inquiry into this matter and the whole thing looks exceedingly ugly to us, and it looks like it pays some people very handsomely to be in the council.

When our investigation into this phase of the burial business is complete we expect to make public some startling discoveries.

In regard to the hack hire matter, it is of interest to know that four of the five councilmen undertakers are also interested in the ownership of hacks as well, Mr. Fred Richardson alone of the five not being so interested.

Now as to the cost of funerals, it is learned that a casket the cost of which complete is less than \$20.00 is charged for by these undertakers at the rate of \$50.00, besides other services.

One casket which cost the director less than \$60.00 complete was billed at \$350.00 and the bill was paid.

It is even stated that all members of the Richmond Funeral Directors Association agree to certain minimum rates

to be charged, thus effecting a combine to hold up the price so that they are thus able to make exorbitant profits on all caskets sold. It is a notable fact that the undertakers of Richmond are all getting rich, or rather have most of them all gotten rich in the business of fleecing people when they are least able to bear it. If there is one time when a man needs money most it is at the death of a member of his family; the doctor is to be paid, the nurse is to be paid and the druggist is to be paid, besides much time has often been lost from work and the income is sometimes completely cut out. With all this to bear it is unpardonable that undertakers should conspire to make him pay five or six prices for a decent burial, just because there exists a trust in the burial business.

It is high time that these politicians who love the people so much at election time, were doing something for the poor by starting a public investigation into the high cost of dying.

If one wants to really make Rome howl, just let him offer such a resolution in the council and then watch how undertakers' friends bury the bill for favors rendered by the undertakers in getting through favored legislation for them.

One has only to watch these members of the city council in their various committee meetings to get disgusted with their methods of doing business. They vote with a remarkable unanimity on nearly all questions of importance and it certainly looks like a case of "I tickle you, you tickle me", while the poor man becomes poorer and the rich man richer.

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## Councilmanic Graft

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The story comes from the Fairmount recently annexed territory that a certain councilman who is a contractor had a contract for some work over in that section and that he sent no sand along for the job. When the time came for the sand his helpers were seen out in the streets gathering up city sand, which is contrary to law. A citizen passing by

asked the employees of the contractor if they did not know that it was against the law to take sand from the streets, to which one of the workmen replied, "That don't make any difference, the boss is a member of the council, and they won't get him."

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## The Police Department

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### Horse Graft

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Some time ago we told the story of the police department buying horses for \$165 and giving a check for \$175.00 in payment therefor. Soon after our publication a policeman called at THE IDEA office and said to our foreman he could tell something about that affair. The writer was not in and not having heard any more from the policeman this is written to ask if any one can give us any light on the matter. If there is no graft here we want to know it.

The silence of the police board makes it look like a genuine case of somebody getting \$10.00 of the tax payers' money on each horse thus sold.

If there is no stealing going on, it's up to the police department to let the people know all about the shady transaction.

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See the next number of THE IDEA for a real live article on Justice John.

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# Hurt Richmond?

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What do you think of that low born commercialism that would refuse to clean up Richmond just because the cleaning up makes public how vile Richmond has gotten? The papers state that Dr. McDaniel said last Sunday night that his sermons had been criticised because they might "hurt Richmond." After all, that's the only reason THE IDEA has not met with the approval of the "business interests." It's because it hurts some of their businesses to turn the light on.

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## Norfolk Editor Answered

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"I understand that a Norfolk editor says that all this talk about Richmond is not so, but I explain that by answering that if a man left here to live in Norfolk, no wonder he thinks Richmond is like heaven."—Times-Dispatch's Report Dr. McDaniel's sermon last Sunday.

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In a letter from Lynchburg recently the finest mother in the world wrote, "Does not McDaniel expect a fine and a lock up for his Sunday Sermon?" A friend tells us to answer that the Dr. is safe as the One John is a member of his church.

But seriously, it is only by vicarious suffering that great good is accomplished and it would be a great day for Richmond if the citizens could be aroused to a realization of actual conditions, even at the expense of putting some preacher in jail for telling the truth. About two years ago a preacher was arrested on Broad Street for preaching against the sins of Richmond, and just as sure as any preacher gets at the real bottom of Richmond's crookedness he will have to go to jail for it. We dare any one to try it.

## A Word from Judge Lindsay, of Denver.

I know now that, whatever attempts may be made to discredit me, in the future, by the organization of vice and power that will try to crush me here, as it has crushed so many before me, the cause for which we have fought will not be imperiled. All the efforts of bribed juries and bought judges—with the power of wealth impelling the villainies of weakness, with the functions of the state so often in the hands of the agents of injustice—will not be sufficient to injure the cause, whatever injury it may succeed in doing to any advocate. The individual is of no importance—his success or his failure, his happiness or his suffering, his triumph or his disgrace. But the cause involves the success or the failure of our wonderful democracy.

We are moving forward against evil against injustice. Our success is as sure as our cause is just. No conspiracy of confusion or corruption can long delay it. No personal defeat can now so much as retard it. The people of this country are still "right": they are FOR the right; and no right cause, once they endorse it, is resistible. WE SHALL WIN!

### Well Worth the Price

"The Idea" which heretofore has been published weekly at Richmond, will hereafter be issued bi-weekly. The Idea contains good reading, and especially some of it is pretty "warm stuff", in regard to the doings in our capitol city. It should have a wide circulation throughout this state as well as the city of Richmond. The price of The Idea is only \$1.00 a year and is well worth the price.—The Mecklenburg Times.

# A Sermonette

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“By Their Fruits Ye Shall Know Them”

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WE would ask those who have censured THE IDEA so much for its method of attack on evils whether they do not think we are more than justified by the results attained. Does any one think that the preachers of Richmond would have ever been able to see how evil the life of the city is, if THE IDEA had not told them, especially since the other papers were continually telling them otherwise. Just Monday before last, The Times-Dispatch had an editorial calculated to make people believe that Richmond is the purest city to be found, while on another page was an account of Dr. McDaniel's sermon on the cause of Richmond's rottenness, which he had so truly depicted a week before when he said that Richmond was rotten to the core.

We claim not to be immodest and we trust it will not be considered that we have over-stepped the bounds of modesty when we state our belief that were it not for this paper these sermons on municipal evils would never have been preached as they are being preached all over the city and the people would not be enlightened as they are gradually being enlightened concerning the evil at their doors. Knowledge is power, and Richmond can never rid herself of evil until it is first kept informed concerning its evil. THE IDEA has turned on the light. That very turning on of the light has already sent many of the powers of darkness to cover, and now that the preachers are taking up the fight it is hoped they will continue until there will be no work for THE IDEA to do.

In leaving the First Baptist Church, after one of Dr. McDadiel's recent sermons, a prominent official of another church said, “McDaniel won't keep his job long if he keeps



up at that rate. His people will get rid of him." THE IDEA thinks that that is not true, but that altho it is unsafe for preachers to be bold in many of the churches, still we believe that statement is a libel on the First Church. If that statement is true, then Richmond is more rotten than Dr. McDaniel or THE IDEA either has ever dared depict it.

Dr. McDaniel shocked and offended some who heard him, and THE IDEA has never been ashamed to plead guilty to the charge of offending the senses of some, but it is better far to offend the delicate sensibilities of some than to permit evils to grow, under our very noses, to damn and destroy our youth and undermine and corrupt the morals of the entire community. Richmond has already sunk so far in crime that we sincerely believe that nothing but the millenium itself will ever cure it.

The political and moral and social life of the community has been so corrupted that the very constitution of the city has been weakened and Richmond of itself cannot recover itself.

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It takes courage to work on in silence, and wait, perhaps, until after you are dead for the justification of your acts which nobody understands and which you can not explain without injuring another. —Success.

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THE IDEA is one of these ding fool, cranky, anti-sin, anti-saloon papers that are published for the fun of taking a crack at sin and in its fight for the right will tell the truth about conditions as they are even if it looses every advertiser it has. We may lose money, and by slander we may lose reputation, but we are not so foolish as to lose our own self-respect or integrity. When this paper sins, it sins because it can't help it, and not because there's money in it. We are such a blamed fool that we don't believe it pays to gain even the whole world and lose your own self.

---

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## "Lay On, McDuff"

We recently endorsed Yoder's work in the line of a cleaner city. He uses plain words, yet not more so than are in the old testament part of the Holy Bible. Before we said "Give them hot stuff." Now we add "Lay on, McDuff," and so forth and so on. **Augusta County Argus.**

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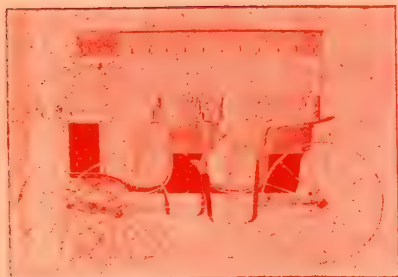
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Vol. IV

July 23, 1910

No. 27

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# THE IDEA

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A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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## John Crutchfield

SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 1



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# THE IDEA

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VOL. IV

JULY 23, 1910

No. 27

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## John Crutchfield

### An Interview and A Study

Police Justice Puts the Writer Under Bond To Keep  
the Peace and then Insults Him and Attempts  
To Make Him Forfeit that Bond.

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SOMETIME ago THE IDEA printed a statement of the fact that John Crutchfield had kept a bar on Marshall Street, and was, therefore, such a man as to be unfit to administer justice in the police court. Just previous to that publication the Justice had put the writer under bond to keep the peace, tho he had never broken the peace, as the Commonwealth admitted later by quashing the warrant before it came before the higher court.

While the bond was still pending, however, Justice Crutchfield waited on the City Hall steps for the writer and called him into the ante-room of the Mayor's office and insulted him in such language as is unfit to be printed in this paper, cursing and calling his statements made lies.

The writer kept his head until an apology was offered, which came an hour later, and thus refused to be led into any "breach of the peace", for which he would surely have been fined, and his bond would have been confiscated, altho Justice John has repeatedly said the lie was the first blow. Thus he struck the first blow in an assault, but failed to have another chance to suppress this paper, as he said he was determined to do when he fined and sentenced and bonded the editor.

The Justice admitted that he wanted the writer to fight by saying he would have given \$50.00 if we had struck him, but since, after he had been forced to admit the truth of the publication in question, he had apologized for making the assault, we thought we would let the matter drop.

Since then, after careful deliberation, we have decided to make public the facts, because we think the people have a right to know just what manner of man this Justice is, who while posing as a merciful judge, jealous of the peace of the city, is really guilty of a breach of the peace himself, while his decisions against the writer are but the fruit of his malice, because his past acts have been exposed. The writer of these lines has gone to jail for criticising the rank injustices of this petty official, and as long as these injustices work a hardship on the innocent he will continue to expose them, tho the corrupt political ring succeed in their nefarious attempts to put him in jail again.

What we said then was true, and we will continue to tell the truth, regardless of whom it hurts, if thereby we can enlighten the voters towards getting fit men into office.

On the occasion of this interview, Justice John demanded to know why we continued to get after him, to which we replied that we regarded him as unfit for the position he

(Concluded on page 7.)

# A Sermonette

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“Whatsoever Ye Would That Men  
Should Do Unto You, Do Ye Even  
So Unto Them.”

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UP in my native city, nestled where the cloud crowned peaks of the beauteous Blue Ridge mountains cast their evening shadows o'er a liberty loving people: Up in my mountain home, where the very air seems filled with thoughts of freedom: Up in Piedmont Virginia, in the goodly town of Lynchburg, I spent a happy childhood;—happy, because I was always dreaming of life as it should be and as it would be if man would permit it;—happy because I lived among the clouds and listened to Nature's teachings and because of a parentage such as few enjoy.

But a change came over the spirit of my dreams. Stories of the dying in sin of those for whom Christ died, dying to eternal hell because no one had told them the story, which, believing, would bring them salvation; stories the preachers told, made me sad. So I said I'd save them by carrying them the good news, and I went away to school to prepare myself to teach them God's word.

As I studied the sacred writings I found that they did not teach that one should live in an eternal hell because he had not heard of a certain plan of salvation, but I found it did teach of the Son of a certain King, who became poor that we might be made rich,—of a God who died that others might live.



UP in my native city I thought and read and learned. Up in my mountain home I stood in the evening time and watched the toilers come home, no, not home, they had no homes,—merely places to sleep, often miserable and squalid. Their homes were over in the sweating, steaming, deafening, foulsmelling tobacco and shoe and cotton factories.

But I watched them, watched them at evening time with their sunken cheeks and thin faces and emaciated forms and stooping shoulders and weary and saddened countenances and lustreless eyes and slow and tired walk. Then I watched them in the morning with the same careworn forms, with a little more hope and determination in their faces, with a little less sadness in their eyes, and I said, "Oh! that I had a fortune, what pleasure would be mine. I'd give it to the poor and they and I would be happy", and I planned how far a million dollars would go and how much I could do if some bachelor millionaire uncle would leave me even just a small fortune. And I wondered why God let things be as they were and what He would have me do any how. And as I wondered I read what He did do when He came on earth, and I found He did not come with money for the poor, but, on the other hand, He came as a poor man himself with not even a home in which to sleep, not even where to lay down His head. He brought not riches to the poor but He gave his time and His love, and His teachings and Himself to the poor. And when the rich young man wanted to know what he should do, He told him to get rid of his money by giving it to the poor, not because giving the money was the thing, but because while he had the money he could not do much service, the *money* was the *evil* in the way. If it were a good thing, Christ would have had it in abundance to give to the poor himself.

No, He told the young to sell his possessions so that he could "come and follow me." As long as he had the money it would be his master; if he gave it away, then he could use his life for the world.

So I said, "I am just as rich as Jesus was and freer to

follow Jesus than the man of money. Maybe if I had, and most likely, judging from what I knew of other *good* men that had it, it would be my master and I could not give it up and never could follow Jesus. But being already poor, I said, "I will follow Him."

So I looked again at the sorrows of the poor, and told myself I would do what Jesus did, give my life to the conflict of right against wrong.

With wealth I might be a slave, with poverty I must be free,—free to do for the right as no rich man can.

---

**B**UT what would Jesus do? "As ye would that men should do unto you, do ye even so unto them." If I were they what would I desire of a man in my condition? They were sheep without a shepherd; in poverty and ignorance and social and industrial servitude, not knowing how to better their condition, and being so enthralled that of themselves they must sink deeper in the depths of misery and slavery, unable to lift themselves up, because of ignorance. And I, what would they have me to do? I was fortunate enough to be free from their bondage of factory life. I was educated in the best schools of the state. I had learned to think and to reason and I thought I saw a remedy, in small part for their evil condition, tho to apply it meant to sacrifice ambition, to undergo persecution, to give up all that the flesh holds dear; in short, to take up a cross grievous to bear, but withal to follow Jesus, the Great Teacher, who went about doing good in poverty.

So I waited not for riches to enslave me. I was free, and I thought I knew what they would have me do, and Jesus said, "Do ye even so to them." That looked like duty to me, and I had prayed that God would show me my duty, and as I realized that God *chose* to be poor when He came as Jesus to earth, I prayed that I might never be enslaved by wealth, and tho I have been tempted often, God has heard that prayer and I am still free, without money, the Devil's chief weapon, but with the sword and the armor of the Master.

And how should I do for these poor, whom to feed is to feed Christ, and follow His command? Well, the work is too big for one man or many men, but my part is only so much as I can do, so I must do that, beginning *now*, continuing *even unto death*.

---

AND thus THE IDEA began uncovering the evil as Jesus Himself did it with such effective preaching as would bring back the fire of the enemy. You know Jesus was personal, and turning directly to the evil doers he called them to their faces, liars and devils, and the rulers took counsel together and killed him for it. That was His plan. To fight boldly and fearlessly, regardless of the consequences to Himself. Am I not foolish if I adopt any other method.

And remember this, His life accomplished most and will accomplish most only centuries after His death. Had He given away the wealth of the world, He could not have accomplished anything lasting. His method is right. And you are a fool if you don't know it. Has that big liar, the devil, deceived you by the lust of riches? Jesus called the successful business man a fool, and He said, "Woe unto you that are rich" for you have already gotten yours and "you shall hunger."

---

NOW, don't drop this and say, "Is Yoder crazy?" They said Jesus was, because they could not understand his standards of life, and once when he got through telling them about rich men and the Kingdom of Heaven, his very disciples were astonished "out of measure" "at his words", and Jesus seeing that they were unable to understand him, called them "children", and never did succeed in showing them what he meant. We sometimes hear people condemn this paper for citing its own acts to point a moral. We would say that no one has a right to preach how a thing should be done unless he is willing to first go and do it. THE IDEA knows it is right and has the *authority* to say, "Go thou and do likewise." Jesus did not say, "follow somebody else." He said, "follow me."



## John Crutchfield

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(Continued from page 2.)

held, and so we say now that as long as this unfit man holds this position his unjust decisions will not only of right be the subject of our criticism, but we shall regard it a duty to expose his and all other crimes against society whenever he or any other attempts to treat those without a pull differently from those who stand in with the corrupt ring that dominates this city.

At the interview with the police justice, in which the assault above referred to was made, and in which the police justice used language "manifestly tending to corrupt the morals of the youth", if they should hear it, after the justice had cooled off, he stated that the cartoon of him "astride the narrow world like a colossus", which THE IDEA printed a few weeks before, was the best thing this paper ever got out, and he was so tickled with seeing himself as the Czar of Richmond, that he went into ecstasies over it. We cite this to show how easily flattered the man is and how self-important. No one can correctly estimate the man without realizing first of all his conceit and the value he himself puts on himself.

Those lawyers who flatter, win their cases before the "One John." Those who will not flatter find it unprofitable to practice in his court. Many lawyers in this city, who would otherwise practice in criminal cases in the higher courts, refuse to take criminal cases because it means they must start before Justice John.

A very prominent attorney recently gave this as the reason for his dropping all criminal cases, tho he said he would like that class of practice.

While, occasionally, other lawyers practice before the police court, it is a notorious fact that Gilbert Pollock and Harry Smith get almost all of this business, and this foulsmelling basement court room is apparently their sole habitat, for they can be found there almost every court day, apparently waiting for some petty criminal's practice or money.

The fact that it profits only such men as Smith and Pollock to  
(Carried to page 10.)



# Suit Against the Times-Dispatch

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## Must Answer for Damage Done the Editor's Name and Business

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LAST Winter when The Times-Dispatch published defamatory and false accounts of the proceedings in the trials against the editor of THE IDEA, we stated that immediately after the trials we would take steps looking toward entering suit against that paper for malicious libel. We took those steps but found ourselves unable financially to follow up the matter at that time, and so it had to be temporarily dropped.

Recently, however, we put a representative out to solicit subscriptions to THE IDEA and it was discovered that many people who had never read a correct account of the trial, had read the false accounts printed by The Times-Dispatch and believed them, and our reputation had been so damaged by these malicious, scurrilous and defamatory reports that we have decided to enter suit just as soon as the necessary funds can be raised.

A friend has offered to help in this matter, and we write this to ask any others who want to see this lying paper stopped in its defamation of good causes, to subscribe to that fund.

For details please communicate with the publisher of THE IDEA, 1106 Capitol St., Richmond, Va.

It will be remembered that The Times-Dispatch published a slight retraction of one of their malicious reports against us but that retraction was only a partial one of the libels printed the day before. Papers throughout the state reprinted the first article but, of course, did not reprint the retraction, so the damage was done all over the state and south, where THE IDEA does not reach, and so could not rectify the wrong.

Not only have we been humiliated in the community before those who did not have time to get at the exact facts, but the advertising and subscription end of THE IDEA has been damaged, and so we desire to have it settled in the proper courts that The Times-Dispatch has persistently, wilfully and maliciously lied in order to help destroy a publication which paints some of their advertisers and themselves in their evil doing.

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# Pollock Eulogizes Bolling

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LACK of space in the last issue, prevented our noting the fact that on the occasion of the re-election of officers for the city for the ensuing year, G. K. Pollock, ring politician of police court influence and fame and of distillery swill cowfeed notoriety, made an extended eulogy of Engineer Bolling, builder of the flim-flam flume and buckling blunderer of the settling basin and the Broad Street sewer and the Fairmount, and every other mount, mess, all of which have wasted and will waste for the taxpayers hundreds of thousands of dollars of hard earned money. We make mention of this to show how a desirable(?) official is always in need of the praise of his fellows.

Citizens are not continually hearing the praises of Treasurer Pace nor Commissioner of Revenue, Hawkins sung by cheap politicians nor corrupt ring newspapers.

It is a notable fact that since The Idea has exposed the bungles of the engineering department and the crookedness of the police department, the newspapers have been filled with boosts and praises of these, the two most bunglesome, extravagant and, in case of the police department, corrupt, divisions of our city government.

Just recently, the suit of the city against the contracting company which built the first flume was decided by the court in favor of the contracting company, thus making the city pay for two flumes and not a single paper had a word of condemnation for Mr. Bolling, whose mistake it was. Fairmount citizens at each term of court are winning suits against the city for hundreds and thousands of dollars for the egregious blunders of grading in that section. Yet, no condemnation of Bolling on the part of the daily press of the city is heard, while the papers put in large caps the fulsome effusions of praise of a cheap politician who by words of flattery of fellow office holders would continue his hold on his job.

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## John Crutchfield

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(Continued from page 7.)

plead before him ought to give a good idea of the kind of man the unfortunate prisoner has to deal with.

Another fact that seems to accentuate the eccentricities and exaggerate the injustices of this justice is his physical condition. The justice is suffering from serious disorders which have, according to his own words, necessitated the surgeon's knife more than 100 times.

One cannot begin to be just whose mind is constantly reverted by suffering from an impartial consideration of the facts before him. When he feels well, which is seldom, he seems utterly unable to send a man to jail when the offence

demands it. When he is feeling very badly, woe to the unfortunate who chances to come before him for trial. Often have we seen him refuse to listen to a prisoner and send him to jail on what he had previously heard from a policeman or a lawyer or on another trial. So autocratic has this petty official become that he seems to utterly forget that he is an officer of the law, while he uses his position to vent his personal animosities or to serve the purpose of his political friends or to carry out the unlawful policies of municipal departments.

If you chance to gain his disfavor and are brought before him the very best thing you can do is to bow to him as a servant to his master and flatter him with obeisances and servile homage and thus you may tickle him into mitigation of punishment but never into justice which is his sworn duty.

*In short, Justice John deserves a nurse to attend him and a fiddle to amuse him rather than weighty duties to perform.*

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# Police Raid Red Light District

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The Police Department is at last making a feint at breaking up the illicit sale of intoxicants in the red light district of Mayo Street and Locust Alley. Several of these women were raided last Tuesday night and are up before Justice John Wednesday as we go to press, and yet we understand that somebody over about Seven Pines said that THE IDEA would not accomplish anything.



## *Bolling and the Streets*

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THE IDEA a year ago exposed the costliness of the methods of city departments in not acting together in their various duties. The engineer would pave a street, then the sewer hands would come along and tear it up, then as soon as they had made a mess of repairing the job, the water department would rip up the whole business and lay water pipes, only to be followed, perhaps, the next week by the gas department, thus, not only inconveniencing traffic, but making untold expense for the taxpayer, and ultimately leaving the streets in a botched and ruined condition within a few weeks or months after being newly paved.

At that time, denial was made by certain councilmen, that conditions were as we had pictured them, altho we cited specific instances where this was true. Lately, however, we find the papers filled with reports of attempts on the part of the Mayor and Engineer to right this state of affairs. Thus it is seen that it takes our outlandish form of government about a year to do anything after the trouble is clearly pointed out, and it yet remains to be seen whether, after the trouble is ascertained, anything will be done to remedy it until government by a body of four or five takes the place of government by a council of sixty-four.

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A flea and a fly got caught in a flue,  
Said the fly to the flea, "What shall we do?"  
Said the flea to the fly, "Let's flee;"  
Said the fly to the flea, "Let's fly."  
So they flew through a flaw in the flue.

---

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## A Frank Saloonkeeper

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KANSAS City, Mo., claims to have the frankest saloonkeeper in the United States. He keeps the Temple Bar Saloon and advertises his business in a remarkable manner. According to a story recently sent out from there, he has cards printed bearing the following words.

"Friends and neighbors: I am grateful for past favors, and having supplied my store with a fine line of choice liquors, allow me to inform you that I shall continue to make Drunkards, Paupers and Beggars for the sober, industrious, respectable part of the community to support. My liquors will excite riot, robbery and bloodshed.

"They will diminish your comforts, increase your expenses and shorten life. I shall confidently recommend them as sure to multiply fatal accidents and incurable diseases.

"They will deprive some of life, others of reason, many of character and all of peace. They will make fathers fiends, wives widows, children orphans, and all poor. I will train your sons in infidelity, dissipation, ignorance, lewdness, and every other vice. I will corrupt the ministers of religion, obstruct the gospel, defile the church and cause as much temporal and eternal death as I can. But I have a family to support—the business pays—the public encourages it. I have paid my license and the traffic is lawful; and if I don't sell it somebody will. I know the Bible says: "Thou shalt not kill," "no drunkard shall enter the Kingdom of Heaven," and I do not expect the drunkard-maker to fare any better, but I want an easy living and I have resolved to gather the wages of iniquity and fatten on the ruins of my species. "I shall, therefore, carry on my business with energy, and do my best to diminish the wealth of the nation and endanger the safety of the state. As my business flourishes in proportion to your sensibility and ignorance, I will do my best to prevent moral purity and intellectual growth.

"Should you doubt my ability, I refer you to the Pawn-

shops, the Poorhouse, the Police Court, the Hospitals, the Penitentiary and the Gallows, where you will find many of my best customers have gone. A sight of them will convince you that I do what I say.

“Allow me to inform you that you are fools, and that I am an honest saloonkeeper.”

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## *Let the People Know*

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### *How Much Is Spent in Wines and Booze*

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AT a recent meeting of the Council Committee on Ordinance, Charter and Reform, Chairman Umlauf charged councilmen with getting intoxicated on trips taken on the river at the expense of the city and with buying wine to be paid for out of city funds, if the newspaper reports be true. Below we print a clipping from one of the daily papers, and we fail to see any denial of the report.

Just last fall when Taft was here, a council committee had the audacity to order costly drinkables to get drunk off at the Jefferson Hotel; and certain councilmen got so tipsy on that occasion that they could not talk or walk straight, and one in particular made a fool of himself at the auditorium because he felt so good over the effects of the champagne imbibed.

When the editor of this paper called on the City Auditor to find how much of the \$6,000.00 spent for that day's festivities went for strong drink, the auditor refused to divulge this councilmanic secret, and in the committee Barton Grundy attempted to conceal the reports of that day's proceedings by an executive session.

After the rest of the committee overruled that motion, even then Mr. Grundy, sub-chairman in charge of the ban-

quet, hushed up the drink part of his report, and the details were never publicly made known, not even in committee.

Yet we are told that Richmond is wisely and economically run, while councilmen admit it is so crookedly run that they are not willing for the people who pay the bills to know how corrupt it all is.

In the name of the decent people of the city THE IDEA calls on councilmen to come out in the open and if they are determined to get drunk at the city's expense, let them have the nerve to let the people know how much of their money they drank up. They acknowledge their wrong by being ashamed to turn on the light. Men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil.

Today councilmen are insolent enough to go against the will of the people. One year from today and THE IDEA will have made it so hot for them that they will not dare to cover their crimes.

Here is the newspaper clipping:—

"Mr. Umlauf after describing the unpleasant conditions under which the employes concerned must toil, drew a comparison between their unhappy lot and that of certain city officials. He mentioned, in particular a certain trip down the river, taken by a party of which he was a member. Some of the party he charged came home intoxicated. On other trips, taken supposedly on city business, and paid for out of city funds, he charged that wine was purchased."

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# Cliff Weil

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## Commissioner

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THE IDEA regrets to note the election of Cliff Weil as Police Commissioner, as he is recognized as one who stands for nothing. He is in the cigar business, which caters to the trade of the saloons, and it is pointed out that a police commissioner should be in such a position as to be under no obligations to that class of the community which is the recognized breeder of 80 per cent. of all the crimes of the city, and, therefore, which could profit most by having friends on the police board. The bars stand for a "wide open" town. Cliff Weil will stand with the bars, as the past board has always done.

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Vol. IV

July 30, 1910

No. 28

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# THE IDEA

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A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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EXTRA EDITION

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CARLTON McCARTHY

A FIGHTER FROM WAY-BACK

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SEE ARTICLE ON PAGE 12



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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

JULY 30, 1910

No. 28

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1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## Graft of the Dead.

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ON June 16th, at 2:10 A. M., a little girl died at the Sheltering Arms Hospital. The father immediately arranged with an undertaker to take charge of the burial services. Before 3 o'clock, so we are informed, less than an hour after death, the undertaker called up the hospital to get the body. He was told that undertaker Bliley had gotten the body and gone with it.

After some trouble, the indignant father and the undertaker he had employed, succeeded in making the Bliley establishment return the body.

On inquiry, the nurse in charge gave the information, "We send all of our strangers up to Mr. Bliley." On inquiry of two well known undertakers, we learn that Bliley and Bennett, and perhaps one other, get practically all of the bodies of those dying at the five large hospitals of the city, unless relatives make plans beforehand. Both Bliley and Bennett are members of the city council.

Now, THE IDEA wants to know how these undertakers succeed in getting a monopoly on this trade. Do they do it through the management of the hospitals or do they pay nurses for their services in any case?

It is reported that a nurse, or nurses, at one of the hospitals, at least, gets a fee from a certain undertaker for each body turned over to him.

However it be, it is not just that undertakers who have been here for years should be discriminated against in a matter of the burial of the dead, in favor of those who will stoop to questionable acts.

Three weeks ago we said, "It is even stated that all members of the Richmond Funeral Directors' Association agree to certain minimum rates to be charged, thus effecting a combine to hold up the price so that they are able to make exorbitant profits on all caskets sold."

Later a member of that association called on us and told us that that agreement had gone out of date.

Now, altho the undertakers claim that no such agreement now exists, still we are unable to find where the prices have been lowered in a single instance, except as was the case before when an undertaker as an act of charity might reduce the price or even give away to the poor a casket for burial.

As far as the average man is concerned he is the victim of excessive undertaker's charges and THE IDEA would advise all who may be about to die, and that means you, to look around and select an undertaker before hand who is not a member of the association. We understand that those outside the association charge considerably less. Don't wait till you are dead and your little \$1000.00 insurance policy is eaten up in burial fees.

---

Phone us to call for your printing. We have time to do it quickly now and can promise you up to date clean, neat work on paper that talks and with inks that show up. You need some visiting cards? Eh?

# An Accident

---

WHILE in the midst of the article on Carlton McCarthy, on Monday of this week, the writer got up to examine a paper cutter on which the pressman was adjusting the hammer, which had become loose. As he passed within range of the handle, which had been re-inforced by a 2 1-2 inch galvanized pipe about 5 feet long, it came down at full speed and struck him on the head, knocking him to the floor and leaving a cut 1 1-2 inches long, which Dr. Pitt sewed up a little later.

We seldom write articles in praise of any man because our work has been confined almost entirely to political lines, and very few men in politics are worthy of praise. On one occasion we undertook to praise office holders and afterwards found we had made a blunder. It is a sad state of affairs when one is more likely to be right by condemning than by praising the public servants of his city or state. We have made a most careful study of the political life of Carlton McCarthy and believe that he is about the cleanest man in public life in Virginia today, but we are at a loss to know the significance of that fate which literally struck us down while attempting to praise an office holder of Virginia, especially since nothing of more consequence than *political machinery* has attempted to crush us while *condemning* office holders.

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## Important Notice!

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NEXT week's issue will contain an article of much more than usual interest and importance. Be sure and speak for this number.



## Lynchburg Whiskeyites Planning A Big Steal

---

Some year and a half ago when Lynchburg went dry by a tremendous majority certain whiskey interests did their best to steal the election by fraudulent registration and criminal collusion with certain officers of election.

The writer knows exactly what he is talking about for he was one of those who prevented by challenge and proper legal methods the actual steal of perhaps more than 100 votes on election day. The whiskey people knew they were going to win by fair or foul means until they found much to their surprise men determined to break up their crooked work. This same crooked bunch knowing that the dries have gotten wise to their illegal stealing have this year determined to steal the election in an apparently legal manner.

We learn that the taxes of about four hundred negroes were recently paid by the whiskey men and that a large bunch of purchasable white voters were likewise qualified to vote and duly registered by the agent of the whiskey interests and so to many it is a foregone conclusion that, tho at least three fifths of the men and ninety five percent of the women want Lynchburg to stay dry and are well pleased with the dry state of affairs, still Lynchburg will likely go wet this fall because the people dont and cant rule when special interests dont want them to.

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## Whew-e-e!

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**W**HAT do you know about this? Rob't. Whittet, Jr., President of the Albemarle Club, was acting Mayor of the city of Richmond while Mayor Richardson was away in Baltimore. Stop and think. Stop and think, and then you may be able to draw some conclusions for yourselves.

# Street Car Accidents Increase

—  
Due to Company's Action in  
Changing Runs of Motor-  
men and Conductors

---

RECENT statistics of accidents on the Richmond lines of the Virginia Passenger and Power Company show an enormous increase in accidents over former periods. Employees of the company and friends of employees of the company have frequently reported to us this state of affairs and each time they attributed it to the fact that the car company has adopted a policy of changing the runs of motormen and conductors, thus giving a motorman, experienced on one line, a completely new work to learn. A man is taken from a Main Street line, for instance, and put on a Broad or Clay Street line. He has learned the road of the Main Street line and knows the track and the traffic conditions and the time he has to make. Then he goes to Broad Street where he knows nothing of any of the conditions. Unfamiliarity with the road bed or inexperience with certain grades and crossings, switches or turns results in derailment or smash up and the motorman's pay is reduced and he has to climb up again to his old salary. It is the belief among those who have observed this working of the changes made by the company that it is done in order to reduce the pay of the older and higher priced men, because

it is cheaper to have these accidents as long as the company officials stand in with the powers that be and thus succeed in getting out of paying damage suits, than it is to pay the higher wages of experienced men.

This frequent changing of runs often necessitates the removal of the home of the motorman and the expense and inconvenience and reduction in pay all tend to make him dissatisfied and thus leave entirely the service of the company, his place being filled by a new man whose pay is materially less.

This policy of the car company has been carefully watched for some time and it is a most significant fact.

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## A Lesson for the Poor Man

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### Some Talk on Political Parties

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**N**OW let us notice just what it means. It is a well known fact that it is becoming harder and harder each year for a man handicapped by lack of means to forge ahead or even make a living than it was a few years ago.

Strong men with indomitable will start out with the hope and bouyancy of youth, believing, as they have been taught, that an honest man who has energy can make a name for himself. He soon finds that the real question is can he even make a bare living. And if sickness or misfortune comes, he frequently finds that he can't even do that. Then hope and youth and pleasure in life fade as he finds his wife and loved ones suffering for necessities or forced to deny themselves the pleasures and comforts they were wont to enjoy, and life becomes a drudgery and his body becomes prematurely old. We need not carry the picture further. These are facts so intensely familiar to the even casual observer that they need no illustration here. The fact is the thing

and the cause of it is in our social state, which makes it necessary for the representatives of invested money to use every means to reduce expenses in order to uphold the profits of the concerns they manage. Competition demands that each concern give dividends as large as possible, else the stockholder's money is not forthcoming and the concern must go by the board.

Take again the car company. The directors insist that the officers give an economical and close management, for they must have a certain dividend declared so that stock will bring a certain price.

And, we might as well face the issue, it is paid for in the homes and the lives of men. Now there are many men who can easily see that the tendency is to make this state of affairs more acute and to thus crush the working man more and more every year. The large industrial centres are reeking with the suffering in the homes of able-bodied men who desire and are willing to do more than their share of the world's work. Yet industrial conditions have oppressed and are oppressing more and more the poor working man without capital to such an extent that it looks very much as if a serious revolution, not only here in America, but all over the world, must come about in the next few years. Working men are beginning to see the cause of it all and just as soon as they realize how they are being treated, something serious is sure to follow. As we have remarked in these columns several times in the last four years, we confidently expect a bloody revolution in the not distant future. History shows us that great eras come to climax only this way.

Revolution is hell, and it is a great pity that the greed of the owners of the wealth and power of the country will not stop and study and re-adjust the business of the world to the conditions of modern society without waiting for war to do it. If they only would save themselves they could, but the desire for gain has blinded their eyes and there is no hope but in war. Already the clanking of the armaments  
(Continued on 11th page.)



# The Gamblers

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## Botto's, Manhattan, Albemarle

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DOWN on lower Main Street, there has been running for years a gambling den called Botto's Club. Here the games go on without molestation by the police, altho they are well informed about the situation and could easily make a raid, which would break up the joint. Saturday night is the beginning of the big time with them, and the games go on through the night and Sunday and Sunday night. Besides being the resort of many who do nothing but live off their winnings, this club, so called, is the gambling place of many poor men, with families, whose earnings are wasted each week. Not long since, a poor woman, in destitution for the necessities of life, finding that her husband had lost his money at Botto's, went to this place and on threat to expose it, actually succeeded in getting back from the proprietor a part of her husband's losses.

This, we are told, is a frequent occurrence. Whenever one of these fake clubs gets up against such a determined man or woman it finds it cheaper to pay back than to run the risks of publicity and the woman, of course, does not desire to go to court and so she lets the matter drop after getting back a part of her money. All of these fake clubs have bars in connection with them, and if a man is not in a gambling mood when he enters, the treating gets him full of booze, and then when his will is gone, he becomes a fool, and a fool and his money are soon parted, while the gambling joint proprietor gets rich and the poor man's wife and children suffer at home, and it is said that certain police authorities get a rake off for not ordering these places broken up.

At any rate when the writer was arrested at night last fall and his private papers taken from him by George Pollock, police officer, in Chief Werner's office, and brother to Gilbert K. Pollock, he had some memoranda in his pockets concerning the Manhattan fake club and gambling joint on West Broad Street. The proprietor of that club boasted that a half hour after Yoder's arrest he knew all about the information found in Yoder's pockets. Now THE IDEA wants to know who's the traitor to the people. Who is it that arrests those who are about to expose evil, in order to rob them of their means of breaking up crime and in order to protect the criminal in his vice. We are firmly of the opinion that the Richmond police department is about as crooked as a fish hook, or else they would break up in a few hours all these gambling hells which are run wide open here and support such a horde of bloated gamblers, who turn night into day, and late in the mornings swarm from their beds and swoop down on the cheap lunch houses on Main and Broad Streets, there to spread their nets for more suckers to skin.

On East Broad Street, over the Kirk-Parrish Co., No.— is the home of the Manhattan Club, a semi-respectable joint, where young clerks of good families are robbed of their belongings by sharp professionals, who seem to be under the especial watch care of the police.

You know if one inquires why these places are not broken up, he is told that it is so hard to get evidence against them. A story comes to us that some time past a Richmond police captain not only refused to break up a certain well known dive, but actually sent the proprietor of the joint a box of cigars with his apology for making an arrest in his place on warrant sworn out by a man who had been drugged and robbed.

But to return, the Manhattan has operated for years and the police know all about it and don't break it up, when, if they really found it hard to get deadwood on them, could easily stop the whole business by putting a trustworthy officer at the door who could take out his note book and take

down, in plain sight of all who desire to enter, the name or description of each one who tried to get in. They know that this or any of a dozen other well tried methods would soon make it unprofitable for such places to keep open, but they stand in and do nothing, because they want to. It evidently pays them better to keep quiet.

The third place where gambling goes on unhindered, is the Albemarle Club, patronized by society folk and moneyed men and politicians. This place was exposed by THE IDEA some time ago.

Besides these three, there are various and sundry clubs and dens in the city which do thriving business, some in connection with barrooms, some in connection with assignation houses, outside of the sacred precincts of the red light districts Nos. 1 and 2, some in the rear of stores or restaurants, some behind barber shops and similar places. Of course gambling will go on in many places without the knowledge of the police, but there is absolutely no excuse for these open places, known to the police and enjoying immunity and even protection.

Let the police department wake up. Let Mayor Richardson do his sworn duty and take charge of law enforcement in Richmond instead of doing absolutely nothing but make speeches of welcome.

A city the size of Richmond needs a head to it; one who will find out where and why the laws are broken instead of leaving everything to subordinates, while crime and vice and debauchery and lewdness thrive under his very nose.

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## *A Lesson for the Poor Man*

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(Concluded from 7th page.)

is sounding, and if it must come, let it come. The sooner it is over with the better.

Competition must be substituted by co-operation. Capital, the root of all evil, must be replaced by credit. The war that is temporary hell is better than the peace that is eternal slavery.

Now watch some fool throw up his hands and say, "Anarchy" or "Socialism." If this be anarchy, make the most of it. If it be Socialism, then God help Democracy and Republicanism. Names are nothing.

My father, a Pennsylvanian, used to vote a Republican ticket and I, a Virginian, a Democratic ticket and either name was good enough and stood for popular government, but when party machinery goes back on the people by whose permission it exists, then it is time to get new machinery.

Bob Ingersoll once said the Republican party was going his way, and therefore he was a Republican, but just as soon as it turned aside that he would "keep right on."

We think the Republican party has long since turned aside, and it often looks like the Democratic party is in the same boat and if the Democratic party can't stand and won't stand for what we say in this paper, it has already deserted the people, who will do well to "keep right straight on", even if all parties desert them.

When the government, run in the name of the people, commences to stand for special interests as opposed to the people then it is the duty of the people to tear it down and build one that will do that whereunto it is sent. The Anarchist stands for no law. THE IDEA stands for law by, for and of the people, under any name you choose.

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# Carlton McCarthy

## The Mark Twain of Virginia

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IT IS easy to get the idea that a wit or humorist has no serious thoughts and to treat his humor as lacking in seriousness and his work as only of value as a mirth producer. As a matter of fact the greatest humorists are the most conscientious and serious minded of men and their lives are deep and they are the true philosophers.

The King's Fool was by far a brainier man than the king, and the king's being a true fool without the wit was the greatest reason for the existence of the office of court fool held by another. Likewise the world's great wits adopt this method because of the need of it in the mental equipment of those whom they would teach.

Paul got off a fine bit of humor when he spoke of the "foolishness of preaching." The world is so lacking in seriousness that great men have to "put an antic disposition on" to ever get the frivolous minded to take their medicine, and often after taking the medicine they turn and destroy the doctor who gave it, tho it has produced, in part, the effect desired. Every now and then we see papers who can't see a joke actually discussing the sanity of Shakespeare's Hamlet. Only the wise are great jokers.

The sincere appear the most eccentric. They have not time to conceal. They are too great to worry over the appearance of consistency. They are so true themselves that they take for granted that others are likewise wise and sincere. Their motto is "*Esse quam videri*,"—"To be rather than to seem."

Carlton McCarthy is a great humorist. If he told the people what he knows without seasoning it with wit, it would not be listened to; it would be too deep and dry. The

world don't want to go to school. It wants the vaudeville. So the teacher must amuse the infants.

Carlton McCarthy is telling Virginians through The Richmond Evening Journal, some valuable things; telling them in a charming style, in a happy vein, and we learn that there are some who are reading his letters just for the pleasure of it who do not see in them the lessons a great teacher has for his fellow Virginians.

There is undoubtedly no man in Virginia better equipped both by nature and by training to tell Virginians how to run their state than Ex-Mayor McCarthy. Since he has announced his candidacy for Governor of Virginia, if the papers of the state know a good thing when they see it, they will copy, from The Journal, McCarthy's live wire contributions just for their literary value, for even if they are opposed to the election of any man who is not of, for and by "the machine," they can't afford to fail to print these serio-humorous letters which bid fair to become the Ex-Mayor's most valuable contribution to literature, tho he might wish to be remembered for other writings.

These letters are of two-fold value; first, for their insight into the business affairs of the state, of which we voters are so densely ignorant and with which no man is more familiar than McCarthy; and second, for that peculiarly delicate tho piercing subtle humor which marks all his writings and by which the big heart of the man soothes the sting his sharp thrusts have made.

McCarthy the serious, McCarthy the humorist, is Virginia's biggest governorship timber for the next election. If the papers will do their part to the people by giving due publicity to his campaign, the people can be counted on to elect him to office.

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# Public Pays for Private Work of Policemen

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Wednesday, July 27th, 1910.

We have not had time to look up this, but we believe it is true. We are informed that for the last two weeks or so one half of the night police force have been off regular duty and have been doing work out at the fair grounds for the police picnic to be held today, Wednesday, July 27th. We are told that at one station from which 16 men go out each night on patrol duty only 8 have been doing this duty. Now the question for the police is this: If the city, or any section of it, can get along with one half the force, why is it that the board is asking the council for 25 more men? Another question: What right has the board to direct that policemen continue to draw pay from the city treasury while they are doing work which is none of the citizens's concern, merely their own private ends being served by an annual picnic.

---

## Wanted

We've the telegraph wireless,  
The church that is spireless,  
The gas that is fireless;  
Yet these we desire less  
Than roads which are mireless,  
Than hobos who're tireless,  
Campaigns that are liarless,  
And statesmen who're hireless.

—Exchange.

---

**Y**OU have not heard anybody say there was no graft in buying horses for the police department, have ycu? It is up to somebody to come out in the open.

# Crutchfield

---

WE failed to state last week that while the editor and Justice Crutchfield were in conversation in the Mayor's ante-room, Chief of Police Werner twice passed through the room, and tho we do not know what significance it had, still it looked like he was on hand to protect the One John and arrest the publisher of THE IDEA in case of the fight expected.

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## A Strange Disposition

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(An old clipping.)

The Hustings Court of Richmond dismissed the case against A. A. Yoder, publisher of the "Idea," without trial. Yoder was tried in the Police Court on a warrant charging him with circulating obscene literature and fined and placed under bond. His offense consisted in exposing disorderly houses. He appealed to the Hustings Court and after conference between the judge, the Chief of Police, the Commonwealth's Attorney and Yoder, the case was nolle prossed. It was a strange disposition of the case, and to an outsider, it appears as though the authorities deemed it unwise to go into a trial that would further expose an unsavory situation.—Newport News Times-Herald.

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## Right and Wrong

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It requires something of a hero to give up when he is wrong and a good deal of a family man to give up when he is right.—Puck.



## Peculiar Argument

The other day up in Lynchburg we heard of a property owner who said that he was going to vote wet this fall because a tenant he had had left Lynchburg to go to Roanoke to live because he could not get his beer in Lynchburg. This left his house vacant four months and cut off the property owner's rent \$100.00. And yet we hear men in Richmond say prohibition dont prohibit. It seems to have prohibited this man from getting his beer all right all right.

We notice this too that every day or so some blind tiger is caught in Richmond. If Richmond were "dry" you would hear this given as evidence that prohibition dont prohibit and these whiskey soaked papers would be putting these little arrests in large headlines whereas now they put them in the most inconspicuous places in their papers.

My! but these newspapers will have a lot of sins to answer for, all built on the one big sin of covetuousness, or money madness, which they call "business enterprize."

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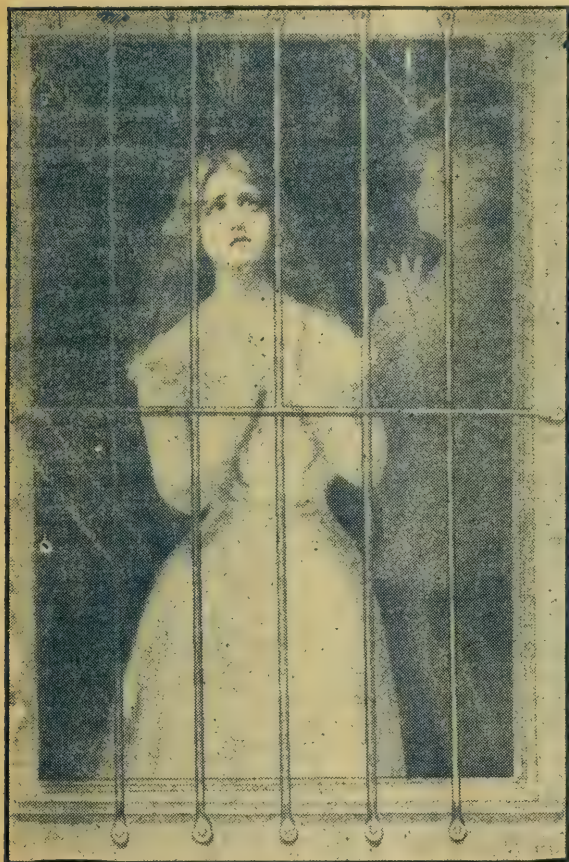
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Traffic in Young Girls.

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How To Save Your Boy  
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Vol. IV

August 6, 1910

No. 29

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Sophie Molloy and the  
Police Department  
People's Money Wasted  
Graft In Swearing Warrants  
Letter from A Socialist  
Political Undertakers  
A Sermonette

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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

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Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## More Waste of People's Money

### Broad Street Torn Up Again

Some Pointed Remarks About the City Government

---

JUST a few months ago Broad Street was torn up for many blocks to put in a big sewer. The trenches had hardly been covered up when it was found that the sewers had buckled and the work had to be torn up and repaired.

Now we find along the same side of the same street trenches being dug again for perhaps another of the various and sundry separate departments of the city government,

which never work together. A business man coming to his office on the car this morning (Thursday) said that he had seldom seen the time when some part of Broad Street was not torn up and if any business man attempted to run his business as uneconomically as the city does he would not last two months.

Whenever you see a street torn up, tho it may look like a little thing, if you look to see how much it costs, you will nearly always find that the council has appropriated hundreds or, perhaps, many thousands of dollars for the work. If there were anything like care in this business, 50 per cent. of the money spent could be saved and instead of having muddy or extremely dusty thoroughfares running through the heart of the city, Richmond could have all its main streets well paved and kept clean.

While on the street question, THE IDEA wants to enquire what has become of the street cleaning department anyway?

As we look out our office door today toward Capitol Square, Richmond's front yard, so to speak, right where the city's best efforts toward cleanliness should be expected, nothing but a littered and filthy mess greets the eye in Capitol Street.

If Washington finds it profitable to have a man at the head of the street cleaners who can get things clean and keep them so, why can't Richmond, the pride of Virginia and the Southland, at least keep its front walks and drive ways clean.

Richmond is known to be the most unhealthy city in the state as far as lung and throat troubles are concerned, and we wonder how much of this is chargeable to the dirty streets and filth laden atmosphere that Richmonders must breathe.

The secrecy of all this lack of decency and order and the cause of the waste of money in Richmond is to be found in the large council of 64 members.

Very few Richmonders, perhaps, realize that this city has

in all probability the largest city council in the United States.

## IMPORTANT!

### A Virginia Weekly Magazine

What THE IDEA is doing for Richmond, what Collier's is doing for the nation, there should be a paper to do for Virginia.

All who know the dependence of daily papers on advertisers know that no daily can ever be such a progressive affair. The whole country is honey-combed with graft and high political crimes and most of the States are enough awake to unearth it all and turn over a new leaf. Virginia, however, is behind the times for lack of a fearless paper that will make it its business to expose the evils that exist and take a forward stand for high ideals in public life. A *local* paper like THE IDEA must always be handicapped for lack of means, because it finds it difficult to get local advertisers for various reasons. A State paper, however, could draw its financial support from the large out of town advertisers who find it profitable to support the big magazines of the country. Such a paper should be a financial success from the beginning. THE IDEA will not undertake this work but there are many men here who desire to do so and in order to try the situation we hope *you* will answer the following questions, cut out the coupon and mail immediately to THE IDEA, 1106 Capitol St., Richmond, Va.

Q. Would you like to see a progressive State weekly magazine in Virginia? Ans. ....

Q. Would you take stock in such a magazine? Ans. ....

Q. Give names and addresses of those who might be interested. Ans. ....

Remarks : .....

Please cut this out now and answer the questions and write out any suggestions. What do you think of it any way? In this way you may have a hand in the coming of a better day in Old Virginia.



## Western Union Boys Rowdy

---

**C**HARLES Hagan, the well known news carrier and paper dealer, whose form is familiar to pedestrians on Broad and Main Streets, is continually being roughly treated by the Western Union Co's. boys. He claims he can get no satisfaction from the police, who ignore his appeals. At one time the Postal boys also participated in their annoyances and rowdy acts, but complaint to the Postal authorities put a stop to it. Complaint has been made to the Western Union management but to no avail. We make this public for Mr. Hagan's benefit in order that friends of his may intercede with the telegraph company's management and restrain these unruly urchins who resort to force and ruffianism to torment one who cannot defend himself against them.

Boys who find they can do injustices with impunity are likely to become a criminal expense to the State in future years.

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## Church Hill

### News Boys, Look!

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### Fine Watch Given Away

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We have secured a fine watch which we will give away to the boy selling the largest number of IDEAS for the next two weeks, Saturday the 13th and Saturday the 20th on Church Hill. Get IDEAS at Waller's.

## The Cost of Hell's Beverage

"If anyone will ask for government statistics at Washington he will find that the direct cost for drink in 1906 was over \$1,600,000,000, while the indirect cost in taking care of the product of the saloon in the way of jails, poorhouses, asylums, court fees for criminals, etc., is as much more, or in round numbers about \$3,000,000,000. If anyone wants facts, here are a few. We will take the round number of \$ ,600,000,000 as the direct cost of the traffic to the country and change it into silver dollars and see what we can do with it. Very few people can comprehend the enormous amount of \$1,000,000 until used comparatively. If we were to take this 1,600,000,000 dollars and undertake to put a border around the State of Pennsylvania, laying at the rate of 30,000 a day, and had we begun at the signing of the Declaration of Independence, it would occupy the time of a man until 1921, to finish the job, or 145 years, and it would go around the State 2 1-2 times. If we wanted this amount loaded on to wagons and hauled away it would take 3,070 teams, from each of the 76 counties of Pennsylvania, 233,-323 teams. each hauling a ton, to carry it. If the same is loaded on cars, each car carrying 20 tons, it will take 50 trains of 50 cars each, and 500 engines to haul this liquor bill for one year in the United States. If piled one upon the other, allowing 10 to the inch, it would make a column 252 miles high. It is 2 1-2 times more than all the bank stock of the United States. It is more than all the products of corn, wheat, oats, barley and rye by 300,000,000. The drink bill for Chicago alone is \$75,000,000, while the bank earnings of the country are less by several million. It is 400,000,000 more than all the railroad earnings of the country.

### More Facts

Our drink bill is six times larger than our traffic revenue, 12 times the amount of the gold products, and 16 times the

value of the silver products. It is five times as much as the annual product of gold, silver, iron, zinc, lead, copper, aluminum and quicksilver.

The Chicago Tribune says: "The saloons of the United States are responsible for 53,000 murders that have been committed in this country during the last 10 years." Two thousand five hundred babies are smothered yearly by drunken mothers, 5,000 suicides, 60,000 fallen girls, 3,000 wives are murdered by drunken husbands. Over 7,000 additional murders take place, 580,000 growing boys contract the drink habit yearly to keep the 250,000 saloons of the United States running.—Exchange.

## A Letter from a Socialist

Richmond, Va., 7-30-10.

EDITOR THE IDEA:—

I have just read in today's issue of your publication, your article entitled, "A Lesson for the Poor Man—Some Talk on Political Parties." I like the tone of this article; it is terse, vigorous, pointed and absolutely true. You use a phrase that should become a classic of the epoch we are rapidly approaching: "The war that is temporary hell is better than the peace that is eternal slavery."

All great transition-epochs in human affairs have evolved phrases, voicing the spirit of the times, which have been engraved upon the archives of subsequent history. This phrase deserves to live in the memory of every man who reads it. Let all ponder well its portentuous import—"war that is hell is better than eternal peace that is slavery." If the masters of the bread decrees that bloodshed and carnage must be the ransom for the emancipation of humanity from the death-dealing and race destroying system of wage slavery under which we are toiling and groaning, why then, so be it. But, let us not pit the issue on the bul-

let until we have tried the ballot. If, when by the arbitrament of the ballot, the majority have decreed a change or revolution from the present chaotic and anarchical system of privately owned production property for the profit and emolument of the few and the impoverishment and enslavement of the many, to a system of public ownership and co-operative production for use that profit and exploitation may be eliminated and the wage slave set free, the ruling class declines to submit to the will of the majority, peacefully expressed, and themselves precipitate carnage in the effort to retain their mastery, why then let the carnage come—the consequences be what they may.

But, brother, let me call your attention to one grave fact, a fact well understood and duly appreciated by the Socialists; *men who have not learned to vote straight cannot be depended on to shoot straight.* A man who votes his master's ticket will use a gun in defence of his master. A man who will vote to continue his bondage may be relied upon to shoot to continue it; so there you are, and what are you going to do about it? A revolution precipitated before the masses are educated to understand their true economic position and class interests would result in a useless and hopeless carnage and end by the ignorant masses shooting themselves into a despotism more terrible and abject than before. The Dick Military law, passed in 1902, and more recently ratified by special legislative enactment in each State, — one Democrat (?) legislature railroaded a bill through in two hours ratifying it—is a cunning measure devised by the ruling class for forestalling incipient revolution. By its provisions each man—some professionals excepted—between the ages of 18 and 45, is subject to military duty at the call of the military authorities upon pain of court martial and military discipline—shooting.

It would require a well educated and organized people to resist the drastic despotism potential in this infamous law, and it would be suicidal folly to precipitate a revolution before such education and organization can be completed.

(Continued on page 13.)



# The Spirit of Christianity

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## A Sermonette

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*"Verily I say unto you except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die it abideth alone, but if it die it bringeth forth much fruit. He that loveth his life shall lose it, and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal."*

When Jesus said, "Take up your cross", He did not mean that man should go about with a piece of wood on his shoulder, nor did He mean, as we've so often heard preachers explain, just as they often explain all the backbone out of the other teachings of Jesus, that He meant that any of life's burdens were crosses and that when one bears his part of church expenses or pays his share to any of the evangelical enterprises of the church he is thus fulfilling the command and bearing his cross. We are continually hearing men who can't follow Jesus all the way, continually tearing the standard down to their measure instead of admitting that the standard is too high for them.

How often have you heard a preacher with a text as plain as the nose on your face, spend a half hour telling you that the text did not mean exactly what it said, but meant something else; and then you went away remarking how learned a discourse you had heard,—you knew it took a learned man to get out of that plain text a meaning you had never dreamed of.

To one who makes a careful study of Jesus the remarkable thing is not the *depth* of the "doctrines" of Justification or Sanctification or any other -ation, but the simplicity and

plainness of His good news to men, and the radical difference between His preaching to GIVE up this life and all its so called pleasures and the preaching of others to GET something out of life. The spirit of Christianity is *giving*. The spirit of this world is *getting*, and altho we call ourselves a Christian nation, we don't know enough about Christianity to recognize it when we see it, for whenever we find a man who don't worship the dollar but who, on the other hand, has a hobby like Jesus had of doing good and giving his life for others, we regard him as a fool and say he is a crank.

No, Jesus did not mean go about with a chip on your shoulder, but when He said, "Take up your cross and follow Me", He meant to say, "Do something to get hung for." "Do something to be electrocuted for." "Do something to be publicly and ignominiously executed for."

The cross was the emblem of legal execution by the State for crime, and yet we hear the absurd explanation that it meant give something to charity, etc. And if a man does follow Jesus today, he will be subject to the same kind of persecution.

Let a man today preach against the rulers and the merchants and the lawyers and expose them as "liars" and "thieves" and "hypocrites", (and Jesus called men to their faces by these very names) and he will be cried out against for his life and if the powers get a chance they will put him to death "between thieves."

"Except a grain of wheat fall in the ground and die it abideth alone", unless it gives up its life it stays *alone*—all one—single, "but if it die it bringeth forth much fruit." One grain instead of staying single,—all one,—alone, may, by dying, become a hundred grains, it may "bear much fruit", and that is the test of Christianity, "that ye bear much fruit."

This is the mystery of God, that death brings forth life and life "more abundantly", and only by taking up the cross of death can the crown of eternal life be gained, for Jesus said that he that loveth his life shall lose it and he

that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal. If you ask a professing Christian if he believes what Jesus said and he'll tell you of course he does and then he'll show you that he don't by making it his business to succeed in this life,—“to provide for old age” or to insure himself respectable clothing or a good table, altho Jesus said, “take no thought what you shall eat or what you shall put on” for after these things do the nations seek. I know there are a lot of men who think they know more than Jesus knew about it, but they will wake up some day and find themselves sadly mistaken.

They may think Jesus did not know, but Jesus says they are deceived by the lust for money into thinking this little human existence is *it*, when eternity is the true reality and after all this life is but a sleep and a forgetting. This life is not the food to be eaten, but only the seed to be sown for a harvest time to come. If the seed be eaten or consumed in the cares of this life it can not bring forth fruit.

No doubt shortsighted Hell rejoiced over the death of Jesus, not knowing that in the harvest every knee shall bow and every tongue shall confess him King of Kings.

Be not deceived. God is not mocked, whatsoever a man soweth that shall he also reap. He that soweth to the flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption,—death. He that loveth this life shall lose it, and he that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting.

The fact that the spiritual life does not bring fruit such as the fleshly senses can appreciate, deceives some into thinking that the spiritually minded are not wise.

The fact that this fleshly worldly does reward the evil doer and gives the lie to the saying, “Honesty is the best policy” leads some to believe that it don't pay to be good or to do good.

Jesus never taught that it paid in this life's treasures to be a Christian,

The men who have followed Jesus most closely have all been rank failures as this world counts success.

The apostles of Christ's time and the martyrs who went

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\$.75	Jar Vie-Veer Massage Cream	.	.	.	.	\$.49

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# Sophie Molloy and the Police Department

---

THE papers of Monday tell us that on last Sunday Sophie Molloy, who Justice John says operated the worst house in town, and who for years has kept open outside the red light district and known to the police an assignation house where whiskey was also sold, was arrested for selling liquor without license.

This Sophie is the one whom the police power of the city of Richmond protected from jail last fall and because THE IDEA exposed them in it the editor was arrested and put in jail.

What we said about it then was the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth, and we are here to repeat it whenever we please.

Sophie was freed because she stood in, tho she was steeped in crime. We went to jail because we attempted to break up this crime. She was put under bond. We wonder why we hear nothing of the forfeiture of that bond.

The Times-Dispatch has this to say:—

## SOPHIE MOLLOY ARRESTED

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### Charged With Selling Liquor Without a License

---

Sophie Molloy, a well-known character in police circles, was arrested yesterday by Policemen Napier and Spur on a charge of selling liquor without a license. The warrant for

the woman's arrest was sworn out upon "information received," and it is said that the officers will be able to produce two witnesses who will testify that the woman sold the intoxicants.

Sophie Molloy figured extensively in the trial of James Conway, charged with the killing of Robert Torrence."

Those who would reform must go to jail for it while Sophie, the criminal prostitute, must keep her liberty because for some unknown reason she enjoyed protection.

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## A Letter from a Socialist

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(Continued from 7th page.)

To educate the people and organize them, to the end that they may emancipate themselves, peacefully if possible, otherwise if necessary, is the mission of the Socialist Party.

The Capitalist System is rapidly nearing its culmination, and when the crisis comes, if there be not enough people educated to understand and cope with the situation, a reign of terror must ensue. Men will not starve peacefully. Self-preservation is the first law of nature, and hungry men would become elemental demons, battling for bread. But without training, organization and a definite programme, the carnage would be in vain. The wasters of bread would get their well-fed hirelings to drum along the hungry mob with gatling guns and dynamite, and the Nation would take a plunge backward into the night of feudal despotism more dark and terrible than the world has yet seen. That such dire calamity be averted, and the evolution of civilization continue until the world reaches the heights of co-operation and brotherhood, it becomes the duty of each man, endowed by nature with honesty and intelligence, to take a part. The times need men—men who will not let their immediate economic interests stultify them—men who will not, for

their own selfish ends, sell the human race into eternal bondage. Men who are fearless in proclaiming the truth to their benighted brothers in terms too forceful and plain to be misunderstood. Upon such men the fate of a world depends.

B. M. DUTTON.

---

# Holiday, August the 10th

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## Grocers Plan a Big Time

---

### Annual Excursion, to Buckroe, Will Give Away Many Valuable Prizes

---

#### Contrast Between Grocers' and Police Picnics

---

THE Retail Grocers' Association will go on their 10th Annual Excursion on next Wednesday, August 10th, and those who go with them are not only promised a pleasant day at the beach at a low cost, but bills are out announcing that presents will be given to every one that goes.

The Southern Biscuit Works will distribute full sized boxes of cakes and crackers to all who go, and the Southern Manufacturing Co. will give away postal cards and other valuable souvenirs while several hundred dollars' worth of special prizes will be given to those who happen to have the

lucky numbers on their tickets. These valuable prizes include a suit of clothes, a barrel of flour, half cord of wood and many other things.

The Grocers always carry a big crowd on their excursions and they thus defray, in part, the expenses of their organization.

What a contrast in methods of making money there is between the Police Benevolent Association, which gives away poisonous booze to all who will ask for it at their annual picnic which costs \$1.00 to enter. Besides this, just this year gambling, literally under the very nose of the police, went on at their picnic this summer. Several games of Poker were in progress in one building.

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## Political Undertakers Get the Coroner's Business

---

The reasons why undertakers are in the council increase. It is now learned that two undertakers, Bliley and Bennett, are the favored ones when a death occurs which has to come before the City Coroner. Bliley and Bennett are councilmen and it is stated that their political influence is responsible for the fact that nearly all deaths of strangers in the city, which come before a coroner's jury, help to enrich these undertakers.

No wonder the best citizens seldom run for office when they have to oppose men who use their office for private gain and who thus will exert themselves beyond what is proper to gain a seat in the council.

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BY AND SEE IF YOU HAVE NOT SOME PRINTING FOR HIM



## Graft In Swearing Warrants

---

Complaints have come to our ears for a year concerning the Justices of the Peace. There are three Justices for each ward of the city, making twenty four Justices in all. Of these twenty four duly elected by the people we learn that two get about 80 per cent. of all the work.

Justice McCarthy at the 1st police station and Justice Purdy at the second police station are always in evidence on warrants and bonds, earning many fees, while the other Justices have in many cases not made enough money to pay for their primary election fees, much less other election expenses.

It is a notorious fact that when a man has committed a crime and a policeman appears, instead of arresting the offender he finds the offended and informs him it will be necessary to swear out a warrant before he can make an arrest, which is not true, and then he telephones for McCarthy or Purdy who swear out the warrant and collect 50c for the same.

McCarthy has a brother who is a police commissioner and it is said that this is one reason why he is so often called on. Policemen desirous of retaining their jobs please commissioner McCarthy by making his brother's business profitable, for 'Squire McCarthy has no other business but to wait for criminals to furnish him a living. Much of his time he spends at police headquarters, waiting for business.

'Squire Purdy, in the west end, seems to enjoy the special favor of the Chief, for when the Chief wants to have a warrant sworn he calls on Purdy. It is stated that the other Justices live near the station, still Purdy is always called. It is even learned that while other Justices are in the station house itself Purdy is phoned for to collect the fee and policemen have been known to do electioneering duty for him at election time, thus using the power of their influential positions with voters who desire to please them for favors obtainable.

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August 13, 1910

No

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# THE IDEA

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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## A Red Hot Number Must We Quit?



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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

AUGUST 13, 1910

NO. 30

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## *Pollock Wools the Council*

### *Wise-Pollock Affair Whitewash Complete*

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ON Thursday of last week the council met to play the last act in the now famous Pollock-Wise Swill Investigation and to put the final touches of whitewash on the dirty affair. It will be remembered that Pollock and Wise, councilmen of the city of Richmond, received a fee of \$500.-00 for their services in "getting permission from the Health Board," as they expressed it, for dairymen to use distillery swill, contrary to law, in feeding milk cows.

Though this in itself was contrary to morals and even legal ethics, and tho they should have been punished for it by being dismissed from the council, still it further appeared that they were hired by the dairymen to get them the right to feed the swill (1) When they knew it was contrary to law, (2) They interested themselves in and had passed an ordinance changing that law. (3rd) They were paid after

the ordinance was passed. For all this, the council committee after a stormy investigation, decided simply to recommend that such lawyers be prohibited by ordinance from appearing before any committee or department or court of the city in which the city is interested. When the ordinance as drawn by the city attorney for the council committee embodying this idea came before the council, that subservient body instead of listening to the committee which heard the evidence, and the city attorney, simply voted as Pollock "demanded", for he is a wise politician and an able speaker and the councilmen are all "good friends" with him and when he said, "I demand" of the good men in this body, only a half dozen or so had the courage to vote against him, and, therefore, practically all the work of the investigating committee was undone for Pollock, whose character very few councilmen respect at all, but whose ability they all seem to worship, had led them by the nose to do what their common sense directed they should not do.

Pollock is a master in the art of flattery, always smooth and self-controlled, he rubs the fur of his mental underlings, though moral superiors, the right way and they, for fear of offending somebody, vote as he wishes them to. Here is a sample of the palaver he gave them:

"I need no recommendation from these gentlemen who are trying to drive me from council. I am going to demand even-handed justice. I am going to depend on the honest, intelligent members of this body to defeat this ordinance. It is an insult to the integrity of the courts. I will not be driven from this Council. I ask only justice, and I expect to get it,"

Just think of it: Gilbert Pollock exhorting a city council of Richmond, Va., U. S. A., to come with him up to a higher plane of justice and honesty, Pollock protecting the council from "insulting the integrity of the courts."

Thus did Pollock, the slick, apply the whitewash to his own hide, and we fancy as he went home that night he laughed in his sleeve at the way he had wooled the council,

or as one of the papers puts it, "created a profound effect on his auditors."

So Justice John's son-in-law, as Pollock is called in police circles, may continue to practice before the One John with whom he has so much influence and whose salary he has so great a weight in increasing in the council.

When one hires Pollock, he hires a man who hires the judge and the chances are he'll win.

This means much money for G. K. Pollock, of the smooth tongue, and the slick hair, and the devious ways.

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## A Walk Through Mayo Street

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ON Monday of this week, the writer walked again through Mayo Street, the place where crime and debauchery and vice run rampant under the careful protection from the law on the part of the police board.

There seems to be an improvement in the general condition of affairs, altho women hung from the windows "displaying their breasts below the danger line," as on the former occasion, reported a few months ago in these columns. These words in quotations above are the ones used then, at which Justice John seemed to take especial offence, and for which he said he was going to put a stop to THE IDEA. Let it be known to the Justice and all whom it may concern that this paper, as long as it can financially exist, will condemn in the harshest terms these evils and expose the chief and the mayor and police justice and Commonwealth's Attorney in their criminal alliance with vice and debauchery, and when THE IDEA shall cease to be, the tongue and the pen of the writer of these lines will continue to exert themselves for purity and righteousness and will continue to expose as traitors and cowards and corruptionists those who violate their oaths of office.



# Wholesale Arrests

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## Negroes Treated Like Cattle

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SINCE the police department has been stirred up by the publicity of THE IDEA, they are making a pretense at being most zealous of the morals of the city and wholesale raids have taken place and negroes, herded together like cattle, have been hurried away to jail after being hustled out of their beds at midnight, absolutely without any warrant or right to search their premises, the only excuse being that some petty thieving had been going on while the police were taking a picnic or preparing for it, while the real reason seems to be that the police department, knowing how any action against negroes is applauded by the great "Supreme" and its satellites, was anxious to reinstate itself in the good graces of the people by appearing to be zealous guardians of law and order. Now, THE IDEA inquires to know whether it is unlawful to live in any section of the great and prosperous city of Richmond? These negroes, male and female, were taken into custody with no other charge than that they lived in a certain street and the papers, in extenuation of the action of the police, said that among them were many who had been before the police department before. We would enquire, since when has it been lawful to arrest a man twice on the same charge or simply because he had given trouble in the past.

Should a man be subject to the whims of the police simply because he had been made to suffer once for a violation of law?

We don't know how it strikes other people, but it certainly sounds to us more like the accounts of Russian persecution of Jews than it does like orderly American procedure.

It looks like the Richmond police department delights in showing its authority, but never delights in enforcing the law.

Notice also that when a raid is made it is not in any recognized red light district where police commissioners have special interests and where the laws are openly violated, well known to the police.

If one should be arrested simply because he lived in a given locality that locality surely ought to be the one in which to reside means you are a prostitute, and where rents are exorbitant simply because for prostitutes to live elsewhere means that they will not enjoy the favors of the beneficent police board under the wise(?) management of C. Manning, Jr., confessed bribe taker.

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# Assinated

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By Police and Press

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The Idea Must Stop Publishing

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At Least for a While

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EVER since early in the spring, newsdealers all over the city have told us of intimidations by representatives of the machine element of the city which have made it unprofitable for them to handle THE IDEA.

Petitions have been circulated among the dealers to get them to agree to stop handling this paper and many believe that the warrant against the writer for corrupting the morals of the youth was mainly to have a means of stopping the dealers from handling THE IDEA by threats of like treatment.

At any rate, many dealers stopped at that time, and it is learned that they were told by representatives of the police department that they would be arrested if they continued to sell THE IDEA.

The dealers may have known that they could not be broken up on so flimsy a charge, still they felt it unwise to draw the enmity of those in authority against them.

Newsdealers who sold on Sunday were likewise approached and told that THE IDEA was after breaking up their business by having the laws against Sunday selling enforced.

In this and various other ways best known to unprincipled crooks, whose businesses depend on lawlessness or patronage or police protection of crime, great pressure has been brought to bear on all who dared handle THE IDEA until not a half dozen dealers in the city will handle it, tho their sympathies be with it. At one time about 30 dealers sold THE IDEA regularly.

By thus cutting down our mean of distribution many regular buyers of THE IDEA have been unable to secure the paper. Boys have been treated in the same manner and every low and vile means imaginable has been used to kill THE IDEA so that the circulation has been cut down about 500 in the last three months.

This, together with the fact that the printing business on which we have had to rely has been dull for the summer and the writer has been so completely run down by the multifarious duties of editing, publishing, printing and other cares as not to be able to make the paper what it should be—all these have combined to our financial hurt, until THE IDEA today is so handicapped as to be unable to meet the demands on its treasury and so will have to discontinue publication with this number, at least for the present or until sufficient funds can be secured to continue operation.

The editor, too, is completely exhausted physically and must take a rest of a week or so at least.

By the first of September it is hoped that the publication may be resumed. At that time an attempt will be made to get back at work. Meantime we desire to thank the many

friends whose contributions have made the paper so far successful for their acts of kindness, and to assure all subscribers that if they will wait a little while the paper will resume its attack on graft and greed and political corruption. THE IDEA is about \$70.00 behind and while the dull summer continues cannot afford to keep on at a loss, nor can it operate without a loss while its editor is so physically exhausted as to be unable to do proper research work. Meantime some means must be devised to meet our financial obligations and to get a much needed rest.

In the fall we trust Richmond will wake up.

Later—on Thursday night—at a meeting of friends consisting of two ministers, a college professor and two business men, it was decided to resume publication of THE IDEA in the fall and to call a public meeting to organize to carry on the work.

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## Policy

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**A**FTER many months of cessation of business, the large policy shops are gradually beginning to ply their trade in a guarded way among the people.

When THE IDEA exposed the Griffin and Hatke policy games, being protected by the police, they were warned and the police saw to it that they kept quiet. But this meant a serious curtailment of revenue, and great pressure has been brought to bear on the police authorities to get them to close their eyes as of yore, and not see the evidences of crime as they have been persuaded to do in the prostitution, whiskey selling and Sunday violation cases. Through fear of exposure, the police found it expedient to keep down the lid, but of late the pressure has been great and the preachers have apparently rested on their oars, and so the nefarious and insidious gambling has broke loose afresh and prom-



ises to soon get back into its old position of complete police protection.

How long, how long, will it be ere Richmonders ORGANIZE to fight corrupt politics, the cause of Richmond's public shame.

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# More About Justices of Peace

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THE ramifications of the machine influence on every phase of political life are simply amazing, and one can hardly turn around without having to bump up against the fees of some machine politician. McCarthy and Purdy are certainly making big money, not only in legitimate fees, but in occupying positions in which they can fix excessive bonds for their friends to furnish for poor unfortunates who chance to be arrested.

It was Purdy who changed the bond fixed for \$500.00 up to \$1000.00 when the editor was arrested last fall for alleged libel, and it was Purdy who swore out the warrant for chief Werner when the editor was arrested this year on the Socialist charge of "corrupting the morals of the youth."

In all the charges preferred against us we do not know of a one in which either McCarthy or Purdy has not collected a fee.

Now, in the name of the other 22 Justices, THE IDEA wants to know why they should be discriminated against?

These servants of the people, some of them, need the money which they were elected to draw, while others pile up fees to riches because of favoritism or something infinitely worse.

# A Remedy for Machine Politics

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By A. Leo Weil

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Mr. Weil, as president of a large body of citizens organized to rid the city of graft and bribery, was primarily responsible for the awakening of public opinion which resulted in the wholesale house-cleaning of the municipal government of Pittsburg.

Wherever a city is governed by a political machine, there you will find systematic graft, bribery, and corruption. The machine is built upon patronage and privileges from which it exacts tribute with which to maintain the organization. The grantor of patronage and privilege expects a return on his investment—and takes it.

Under our form of government, political organization is as necessary for cities as for the state or the nation. The machine, working for selfish interests, *commands* support; an organization, working unselfishly for the public interest, *appeals* for support. *Result: the machine, a thoroughly organized, well-officered army with ample means, against the disorganized public.* There are more honest than dishonest men in every community. Not all supporters of the machine are loyal; some vote because of its power of retaliation, some from a desire to be with the winners, some because of the hopelessness of resistance, a large number because it represents in name their political adherence in national politics. The machine, therefore, continues, though always, in every city, in the minority.

The remedy, as I see it, is to teach the majority. Changes in city government by selecting fewer representatives—a short ballot; the prevention of national party names in

municipal elections; improvements in election machinery or in registration and other laws to qualify voters—these may all help, but in the last analysis, to dislodge the machine *the majority must be organized*. A small number of men, even one man, of determination and means, moved by the purest motives, seeking no office, only the public good, can by intelligent investigation demonstrate that misgovernment by the machine means not merely waste of public moneys, fraudulent contracts, grafting, and political corruption, but spells, in burning letters, debauchery, degradation, partnership with prostitution, immunity of vice, protection of criminals, lax sanitation, disease-breeding tenements, and a lowering of the moral tone of the community, the greatest of all the evils. If by your voice you extol virtue and by your vote you uphold vice, the young are more apt to follow the vote than the voice. Those great financial and insurance-company scandals that shook and shamed this nation were a reflex of the conventional conscience of our great cities where graft, bribery, and corruption prevailed. Demonstrate what machine misgovernment means, and enough righteous men will be found to save the city.

The remedy, therefore, in my opinion is: first, investigation; second, demonstration; third, publication; and fourth, organization, but organization thorough, intelligent, and permanent. Such an organization need not be of an independent political party; it may work within or without the regular party; that depends upon the conditions in each city. Such an organization of the better elements, with a determination to take an active part in city elections, can dominate the situation, break up the machine, divorce municipal from state and national elections, and restore to our cities the control of their own affairs."

The above is from The Cosmopolitan of this month, and is so applicable to the case of Richmond that we reproduce it and commend it to the careful consideration of every voter. THE IDEA has "investigated" and has "published". It remains for the good people of Richmond to "organize",

“thoroughly and permanently.” Have you got the nerve? The machine is all bluff. All you have got to do is to call the bluff. If the good people of Richmond could know how much the slight organization already formed has already done, they would exultantly push forward and clean up the bunch of political rascals that continue to rob and mismanage and debauch the fair Capital of Virginia. The work is before you. It’s up to YOU. ORGANIZE.

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# Richmond Crime

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## Some Facts

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Assignment and Bawdy Houses and Blind Tigers are in operation all over Richmond and one can get a member of the sporting fraternity to point out such places in every section, the high toned West End in particular, and to prove by conclusive evidence that his information is true and yet the police department would have you believe that ignoring the law and making a hot bed for these criminals by segregating them, as they pretend to do, is the best policy, tho the law says otherwise; while as a matter of fact the more women confined in a public red light district the greater the number of outside houses of shame, because the pulchricity of their shame shows others the way of crime and creates and fosters the disregard of moral and civil law. The Red Light policy is a failure in Richmond, as is shown by the low ebb of morality in all walks of life.

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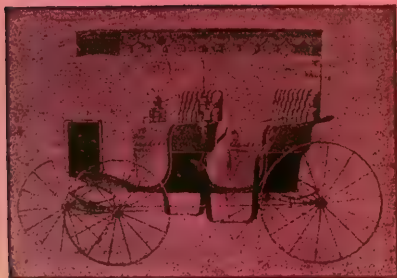
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September 10, 1910

## A SIGN OF THE TIMES



# C. Manning, Jr.

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## The Issue

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## Up to the Courts

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C. Manning to Answer for  
Violation of Oath

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**W**EDNESDAY: As this goes to the printer, THE IDEA management has decided to wait no longer for the good citizens(?) to start a crusade against vice in Richmond, but to take the initiative and bring into court the guilty parties against whom proper evidence has been obtained.

To that end Mr. C. Manning, Jr., will be proceeded against this week, as he has publicly admitted on the stand that he has taken action as a police commissioner to prevent the police department from doing their sworn duty in regard to houses of ill fame. Regardless of the question as to whether it might be best or not for the Legislature to permit such evils under police regulation, Mr. Manning will be proceeded against for violating his oath in preventing police from carrying out the law already passed by the legislature. The legislature never has seen fit to regulate(?) the red light evil but has enacted a law requiring city police to bring to justice all of those who keep houses of ill fame. It has made a Commonwealth's Attorney for each city and made him swear to lawfully see that the laws are enforced. It has devised a Mayor who swears to enforce all the laws by means of the police under him. It has decreed a police board to have general supervision over methods of providing for a sufficient and equipped force of police but with no authority to change any law.

C. Manning, Jr., testified that he had, as police commissioner, *instructed*(?) police to ignore the law in certain sections and also testified that the police department had been instructed to keep an accurate tabulation of the women in these protected districts. To that end the chief of police has in his office today pictures of each woman who occupies one of these houses of ill fame in the so called red light district. He is thus made by the action of the police commissioner an aider and abettor of criminals and by the action of a petty commissioner is transformed from a guardian of the law into a party to the crime. As Mr. Manning is the only one who has publicly admitted his guilt in this matter he is the only one against whom, with the present court, we can supply sufficient evidence to convict.

Those guilty should be proceeded against for misfeasance in office but the Commonwealth's Attorney, Minitree Folkes who heard Manning's admission of guilt has shown that he will not proceed against him and it has therefore seemed best to swear out a warrant against Manning.

Of course it is expected that the whitewashers will by some hook or crook of legal procedure throw the whole matter out of court. We look for that but we want them thus to show their partyship to the evil, which the machine crowd is supporting. Justice Chrutchfield, who admits that the commissioner has violated the law but who insists that as he is only a judicial officer he can do nothing until a case is brought before him, will most likely, in order to save his own hide, refuse to try the case, or else find some technicality on which to dismiss it.

Tho it is the duty of the Commonwealth's Attorney to prosecute this case, as he has already shown that he is with the ring and against any good move THE IDEA may make cannot be relied on to push the case.

In spite of all this we have decided to put it up to the courts in order that the people may see how those whom they have elected to work for them are really more concerned about doing the will of Mayo Street and the crooked politicians and business men whose interests are at stake down there than they are about doing the will of the sovereign people who have made laws to guide them. The issue is clearly drawn. It is, has a petty police commissioner or even an executive officer a right to make laws to suit himself in utter defiance of all laws already made.

It's up to them. Now watch them dodge and delay.

Meantime let the people be educated by this publicity crusade to see the causes and after a while may be the preachers and leaders will make a start for pure government. And that brings us to another subject, namely: Richmond Preachers! Need a Little Dynamite. See page 14.

---

Many large cities have from 3 to 5 councilmen only, and Baltimore, which everybody knows is badly managed enough and has a large, unwieldy council, is afflicted with only about forty, while Richmond groans under the burden of 64, and when we take in Barton Heights or Highland Park it will be 72; enough to legislate for the universe, enough in calibre to run a cider press, that is those who do the actual running.



# A Blunder

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In our last issue was an article headed—Assinated. We don't know what "Assinated" means. Nor did we notice the blunder until after the edition had been disposed of. What we intended to say was "Assassinated" and the type-setter left out three letters and the proof reader failed to detect it.

Thus, "The best laid plans of mice and men  
Gang aft agley,  
And leave us naught but grief and pain  
For promised joy."

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## A Dead Bar-Keeper

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The other day Mr. B., a saloon keeper, died and the papers in giving announcement of it simply stated the time and the place, and the date of the funeral and a list of the relatives but the kind relative or friend had too much consideration for his family to state that M. B. ran a bar-room. Perhaps, too, the notice would be sent to distant relatives from whom shame had kept the fact that Mr. B. ran a bar-room. What a shame that so-called Christian men, for "business" reasons or for "personal liberty" reasons will vote to make it not only possible but legal and profitable for a man to engage in a business the very name of which his friends and family are ashamed to mention in the presence of death.

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Well, THE IDEA is back on the job and there'll be something doing before we take another vacation.

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We'll pay some one a neat commission to get ads. for us. Write or phone The Idea Print Shop, 1106 Capitol St., Phone Monroe 2708.

# Sophie

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## Beloved of the Powers that Be

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IT seems that every attempt to break up the criminal operations of Sophie Molloy results not in the punishment of Sophie but on the other hand in the punishment of those engaged in the attempt.

Early in August two officers attempted to catch Sophie selling whiskey, as she has been a notorious breaker of the prohibition laws for years.

It was given out that at last a clear case had been worked out and that certainly Sophie would get her deserts this time.

Before the trial, however, it became rumored around that Sophie had issued her challenge to the powers that be and had defied them to do anything to her, threatening that if she were punished somebody higher up would have to suffer.

Then word came to us, before the trial mind you, that there was not sufficient evidence to convict and that Sophie would go free, as formerly.

On August 16th Sophie was tried. Gilbert Pollock appeared as counsel for her. A negro was witness against her. He was arrested and put in jail for perjury and Sophie went free.

In view of all the circumstances in the case it is confidently believed that the agents of the prosecution were tampered with and that the case against Sophie was "fixed" in order to protect somebody else "higher up." Sophie, according to the One John, has operated for years one of the worst places in the city, and yet she always goes scot free.

It has been the common talk of the street that this place was patronized by politicians and public officials.

C. Manning, Jr., testified that he had been there, tho he said he had been only on the porch. The porch, however, is on the second floor. He did not mention that. W. P. Leaman, who with Manning and Saunders received about \$1000.00 for his influence with councilmen, was seen at the former trial of Sophie carrying messages between councilman Pollock, who represented Sophie, and a negro man, presumably the one who is reputed to be the paramour of Sophie, white in color.

With such men having a *conversational* acquaintance it is no wonder that Sophie goes free, and the witness against her is put in jail.

Such are the ways of crooked politics in Richmond, the ring ridden.

It is, indeed, an exceedingly dangerous business to tamper with Sophie's illegitimate business. Policemen may be losing their official heads next if they make any pretext towards a real earnest attempt at putting Sophie out of her nefarious occupations.

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# Automobile Wreck

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## Result of Strong Drink

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Last week the town was shocked by the story of a fatal automobile ride after a wine supper.

The ride resulted about an hour after midnight in the immediate death of one of the participants and the later death of another and the evidence clearly points to the fact that, as usual, strong drink was the cause of the wild ride to death and yet some people are big enough fools to argue that the "personal liberty" of man should not be restricted so that he can not endanger the lives of himself and others.

# A Nuisance

---

On Saturday of last week a large dog was killed on North First Street and was left on the side of the car track. On Sunday decomposition had rendered the carcass a *distinct* nuisance to passers-by. On Monday afternoon occupants of a street car had to hold their noses as the car sped by. On Monday night a part of the defunct canine had been removed but what was left won't bear description here, as it seems the body was in such a state as to render it impossible to remove it in toto and those whose duty it was evidently did not want to be soiled with the job so parts were left to the insult of the neighborhood and the many passers-by to Barton Heights. On Tuesday morning the nuisance was not abated and so now at Tuesday noon we write to enquire whether anybody knows why the grand and glorious bunch of politicians who run this town don't devise some up-to-date means of insuring to the citizens of Richmond at least pure air to breathe uncontaminated by foul smells which could easily be gotten rid of. This is a frequent occurrence or THE IDEA would not make mention of it.

Later.—About an hour after writing the above we walked into a barber shop and as we took a chair the proprietor was telling the gentleman he was shaving of the above affair and he said that the residents in the vicinity of 1st Street where the dog was killed had to keep their windows and doors closed Sunday and Monday so all pervasive was the awful stench.

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Had we never loved so kindly,  
 Had we never loved so blindly,  
 Never met, and never parted,  
 We had ne'er been broken hearted.

—Robbie Burns of Scotland.

---

I came not to send peace but a sword.—Jesus.

---

I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God that you present your *bodies* a living *sacrifice*, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your *reasonable service*.—*Saul of Tarsus*.



# How The Times-Dispatch Lies

## Some Straight Talk to the Richmond Public

---

ON May 3rd, last, The Times-Dispatch in its zeal to destroy this paper by any means fair or foul published almost a column of a false account of the arrest of THE IDEA Editor.

In bold, black headlines about a half inch tall was the following:

### Grand Jury Has Yoder Arrested

This was lie number one.

The body of the article began thus: "*At the instance of the Grand Jury* Chief Werner yesterday afternoon swore out a warrant against A. A. Yoder, etc.". This was lie No. two, for Major Werner on the witness stand testified that not only did the Grand Jury not have the publisher arrested but that he alone was responsible for the arrest. Then follow three separate and distinct lies against the publisher, and two half truths which are worse than lies—all calculated and evidently intended to hurt him in the community, and the papers containing these malicious and defamatory slanders were circulated all over the state and nation to the damage of the reputation and finances of the publisher.

Furthermore, this is but one of a long series of damnable outrages which this paper has perpetrated on the

publisher by false publications, evidently simply because the publisher of THE IDEA exposed the corruptions of the rotten government of Richmond and Virginia for which the crooked machine, of which The Times-Dispatch is the mouth-piece and of whose crimes it is the whitewasher, is responsible, and because THE IDEA dared to expose the falsity of the reports which this same supreme published containing a speech of the Secretary of the Anti-Saloon League at Grove Avenue Baptist Church and which the pastor of that church publicly denounced as false.

THE IDEA lays these facts before the Virginia public so that they may calmly consider what is the real cause of the dirty condition of political affairs in the state and so that the good people who believed these false reports and the other cowardly lies which the publishers of The Times-Dispatch printed and from which many good people concluded that the editor of THE IDEA was a rascal and a liar, may judge for themselves whether the publisher of THE IDEA is unworthy of belief, or what he claims to be, one who has given and is giving the best years of his life to the cause of making Virginia a fit place in which to rear his and your children.

As it is it takes a man of some nerve and faith in the desire of the good people of Richmond to cleanse their city of the foul smelling political and hence moral rottenness, the stench of which is filling the nostrils of the state, to permit his children to continue to live in this city's confines, where to walk the streets, in which crime is protected and fostered and where virtue is officially denounced and suppressed, is to become contaminated and besmirched.

If we did not have faith in the good people to soon arise in their might and put away these evils we would not consent to live here, and if we find that there is not enough backbone in the city to drive the thieves out of their political temple we shall shake the dust of the corrupt city from our feet to the joy of the crooked politicians and the "Supreme" and seek a purer atmosphere, for we happen to

have a family which we have no right to sacrifice for any people.

Wake up, you bone heads! Get a broom and sweep away the whitewash and the filth which it so feebly conceals.

---

## Leg Shows

---

WE have observed that those most prone to affect a shock at the mention of the name of man's locomotive member are often the ones who would not shrink at immodest and immoral sights. In their desire to cover up innate immodesty they go to the extreme of affecting manners which the most modest do not use.

Those sturdy peoples which are known for their abhorrence of unseemly deeds are, without exception, given to the use of such terms as leg with the same lack of evil thought as they would have in using the words arm or head.

When one proclaims his modesty from the house tops, better watch him.

It's the man who proclaims, "I won't steal nothin," that will steal the clothes off your back: It's the man who says, "Now, I'm going to tell you the whole truth", that is puckering his mouth for a lie.

And the moral to this prelude is this? Don't proclaim your own immodesty to the world by being shocked at our use of the term 'leg shows.'

Thus beginneth our story:

The tone of the sermons of today shows that the preachers at least think that immorality is on the increase, and the careful student sees its cause in the publicity of leg shows, if you please, with which the citizens of our towns amuse themselves at the cheap theatres. Here boys and girls are early sent on the road to the Devil by indecent exposure, though most often tights instead of skin is in evidence, tho it might as well be the skin, as one cannot tell the difference.

When a pretty girl dancer with stockings up above her knees and short flaring skirts kicks at the ceiling and displays what looks like

human flesh and about ten rows of rowdy, boisterous men and boys tear down the house in their applause there is no use in patting yourself on the back and consoling yourself that the exposition was highly moral just because you have been told that what you saw was cloth, when the effect was the same as if there were no tights.

Now, this is plain talk, but you know that these immoral shows which are exhibited nearly every night at several Broad Street vaudeville houses are populating the red light districts of our country with young girls and are making boys in knee pants patrons of bawdy houses.

It is, indeed, shocking to one who has been reared in a pure atmosphere to see children, boys and girls of respectable people, gazing unblushingly at lust producing acts on which their imaginations may feast for days,

It is a well known fact that whenever an actor "goes the limit", the house does its biggest business. It seems to be the plan of each management to see how far they can go and still not be hounded by the police or censured too much by their more conservative patrons.

Now there would be no occasion for such an article as this if it were not for the fact that Richmond is doubly damned with vile 10 cent shows and whether you attend or not, gentle reader, you and your people and I and my people are influenced by every evil that affects any body else in the community.

Sometime ago we made an attack on this evil and the manager of The Colonial Theatre met the writer and stated that The Colonial was an exception to the rule; that they made it a point to permit nothing unclean or objectionable. We told him that we had heard that his was cleaner than the rest and that we had reference to The Lubin and The Bijou.

Last week, however, we paid a visit to The Colonial and the chief attraction, judging from the applause, was nothing but a leg show.

A prominent student of social conditions of this and other cities stated this week that the same element that is responsible for the low vaudeville in Richmond is also interested in keeping the red light district open.

Those engaged in mission work in the slums tell us that very frequently after the shows are over the actors and actresses repair to the

(Concluded on page 13.)



## Why the Police Don't Enforce the Law

---

A new policeman stood at the station house door and looking across the street at a store which was open on Sunday, he said to an older member of the force: "I'm going to pull that place next Sunday." To this the older officer replied: "You'd better not, if you want to hold your job." The store continues to stay open on Sunday and the new policeman holds his job, and the mayor, who swore he would enforce the law,—well, he winks the other eye, while "Hell enlarges herself."

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## Fake Club

---

UP on Second Street, between Marshall and Broad, is run what is called a Jewish Club, which is not a Jewish Club, but is a gambling resort patronized by Gentiles. This place has been reported to the police, who have done nothing. Many men may be seen to enter, especially on Saturdays and Sundays, and not leave till late in the night, or often till between 5 and 6 A. M. The rattling of chips and cursing and vile language can be heard by passers-by and by the neighbors, to whom the place has become a public nuisance.

Now, THE IDEA man is no detective, tho he keeps his eyes open, neither does he employ any one to do detective work, and yet he has known of this place, and the police have too, for several weeks, yet it seems so strange that the much praised police department permits such things to thrive all over the city and pleads that they can't break up such evils.

All this is the result of the lawmaking of cheap politicians to whom we commit our city affairs and who run the city for private gain and who set aside State laws because *they think* it best not to enforce them.

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# Richmond Preachers

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## Need a Little Dynamite

---

WHETHER it be true or not there is certainly a growing belief among the people that preachers in general in planning what they shall say consider too much the question, "How will it effect my standing with my congregation?" or "How will it effect my prospects for the future?"

Such beliefs as these are being expressed all too frequently by the most thoughtful citizens in the community, citizens who have the highest regard for the Christian ministry and citizens whom it pains to see the decay of effective Jesus like preaching. It is generally accepted that the larger and more wealthy the church the more subservient is the preaching, the higher the salary, the less aggressive the sermon.

It is becoming entirely too common in these days to hear preachers talk about salary as if that were the chief concern of their ministry. One frequently is shocked to hear a preacher say, "Brother So and So is doing fine. He's getting \$2000.00 a year and a parsonage," or "They could not interest me. I'm already getting \$300.00 a year more than that church pays." Now, THE IDEA will always stand for better pay to preachers, for the average preacher has to scrimp to make both ends meet, but the point we wish to make is this, that it is the pastors of the large city churches whom we hear make such remarks and that it is these city pastors who, to judge from their own preaching, are quiet on those evils which affect the business success of prominent members of their congregations.

Now, if a preacher who is getting \$2000.00 a year is offered \$3000.00, while all other things are equal, and he needs more than \$2000.00 and he is sure that he won't let \$3000.00

hurt him any more than \$2000.00 does, then let him take the larger salary, but what THE IDEA desires to see is that preachers, the last people under the sun who should adopt worldly tendencies, are not only being moved too much by the salary question but are also being moved by other purely worldly considerations.

The attitude of the Richmond preachers toward the work of the Anti-Saloon League and towards other great moral movements to which certain influential members are opposed is doing much to make Christian men despair for leadership. The great body of the good people today in Richmond are tremendously earnest in their desire to abolish from Richmond the whiskey traffic and its allied evils, crooked politics, stealing, gambling, decrease, adultery and criminal bestiality, and yet it is a most patent fact that Richmond preachers seem to be afraid to "Stand up for Jesus" and fight this evil in any effective concerted manner whatever. They will join hands in any good cause that won't stir up the Devil among the politicians and business men but when a fight is on that may cost them something the word goes that "Now is not an opportune time to raise the issue. Jesus of Nazareth was always ready to meet the issue, in season and out of season, and Paul taught not simply to wear defensive armor but to use the sword as well, and just so long as Richmond preachers keep quiet and fail to meet the Devil in his aggressive and open challenge to the manhood of Richmond, just so long will vice and crime and debauchery and lewdness increase their following more fastly than the churches.

It has indeed pained us much to note the situation here and we have hoped for a year that something might happen to make it unnecessary for THE IDEA to preach to the preachers, but when vice is dominant in a community so largely filled with churches as Richmond is the leaders in the community should be held to account for their stewardship and regardless of our personal feelings of sincerest love for all preachers in general and many Richmond



preachers in particular, the time has come when THE IDEA feels to longer keep quiet would to be to betray a trust.

To the end that good may come THE IDEA will from now on attempt to put dynamite even under the preachers and if needs be shock them into action. The preachers don't mind talking a little in the right direction but they seem to be so afraid that their sword will really cut something and perhaps from lack of experience in fighting as an aggressive soldier they fear it will cut themselves.

They had better stop singing, "Forward into Battle", and get into the fight.

THE IDEA will shortly have a red hot sermonette for the Preachers. Better read it. It will most likely hit the layman and even the politician and the crook too.

## Hospital Graft Again

In a former number we showed up the pull certain councilmen had with the hospitals. Since that time a friend called by to tell us that an acquaintance of his, an old lady, was thought to be dying in one of the local hospitals.

Finally, life appeared to be entirely gone and one of the nurses remarked, "The woman in number — is dead. Telephone Bliley and get that freezer of cream."

## Amazing Rottenness

Friday morning: As we go to press on the last form of THE IDEA, it begins to look as though Richmond is so crooked that a justice cannot be secured to swear out the warrant against Commissioner Manning. Three justices have been seen so far and not one will perform his duty. Each gives as his reason that to do his duty in this matter will deprive him of the business he has already. This one incident ought to arouse Richmond people for it shows how all-powerful the ring is and how officers of the law may be ruined by doing their duty when that duty displeases the machine. Will nothing but judgment day wake up the citizens?

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Vol. IV

September 17, 1910

No. 2





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# THE IDEAL

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A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

SEPTEMBER 17, 1910

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## Why the Case Against Manning Was Dismissed

The Expected Happens

Warrant Was Properly Drawn

Publisher saw it was impossible to press the case after Commonwealth's Attorney got behind the technical point that to interfere with an officer is to physically interfere

---

**W**EBSTER'S Dictionary says that to interfere is (2) To take a part in the concerns of others; to interpose. C. Manning, Jr. has confessed that he took a part in the

concerns of the police force and interposed his instructions between the police and their sworn duty and prevented them from carrying out the law.

When the case against C. Manning came up on postponement before Justice John on Wednesday of this week the Commonwealth's Attorney, Mr. Folkes, advised Justice Crutchfield to dismiss the case because, he held, that to interfere meant to offer physical violence, while everybody knows that the most serious interference that can be offered in any case is not physical but moral. Mr. Manning is a police commissioner and as such has a voice in deciding who shall be chief of police and his unlawful instructions to that chief has caused the chief to refuse to enforce the law and yet Mr. Folkes says he has not "interfered" with him "according to law." The warrant did not charge that Manning had violated the little statute on interference but the warrant was drawn under the common law and does not cite the statute in question at all.

"The test whether or not a crime is a crime at common law is not whether precedents for so treating it can be found in the books but whether it injuriously effects the public policy and economy."—Bouvier's Law Dictionary page 420.

The Commonwealth's Attorney, however, took a position at variance with the law books and thus there was nothing else to do but accept the inevitable.

Thus it is that there seems no way of stopping public officials in Richmond from their criminal actions and even the State's Attorney seems afraid to take any stand against evil on the part of public officials even after he has been relieved of the embarrassment of first drawing up the warrant.

He, Minitree Felkes, advises us that we have the "privilege" of bringing the matter before the Grand Jury but *he* himself absolutely refuses to act when the matter is brought before him in his official capacity.

The writer has now three times offered to the State's At-

torney evidence enough to, if properly pushed by him, place the responsible parties not in jail but in the penitentiary, and yet I, a citizen, must take all the responsibility of the prosecution and must endanger even my life in the interests of the State because sworn officers refuse to abide their oaths.

Justice John dismissed the case after which the publisher and complaining witness stated to the court that he would bring the matter before the Grand Jury.

Last week THE IDEA said, "Of course it is expected that the whitewashers will by some hook or crook of legal procedure throw the whole matter out of court. We look for that but we want them to thus show their partyship to the evil which the machine crowd is supporting. The Commonwealth's Attorney cannot be relied on to push the case" and so it turned out.

Just think of it, Mr. Folkes can't conceive of Mr. Manning's legally interfering with the police except by physical force. Gee whiz!

---

## Pollock and the Judge

---

"Is this the 'vorce lawyer's office?" said the old-school darkey at THE IDEA office door.

No. Who are you looking for?" was the reply.

"De Jedge up here at the police court told me to come down here to Mr. Odell's—or something like that—office to see about getting a 'vorce."

Idea man.—"Somebody must be putting up a joke on you or me; there's no lawyer around here."

Darkey.—"Well de Jedge said down here in the Ford building next to the 'fectionery store."

Idea man.—"Oh, I see. You mean lawyer Pollock's office on the side of the Ford building next to the confectionery store."

(Continued on page 14.)



# A Sermonette

## For You

---

**B**ENEDICT Arnold was delicate. Judas Iscariot was given to smooth salutations, but John the Baptist was uncouth and Jesus of Nazareth shocked the modesty of polite society. Savonarola made people mad; Sam Jones told truth so plainly that they called him vile.

It takes delicate, polite, conventional men to betray, but course, fearless, unconventional, uncouth shocking, dynamic men to jar men back into right paths.

Deceit comes clothed in delicate finery. Truth is naked.

What Richmond needs is another Sam Jones to tell them the naked truth and shock into action the preachers and the people.

The road to Hell is down grade and easy going.

The road to Heaven is up hill and hard. But, for God's sake, man, look where you are going. I for one will choose the up grade to better things.

If you prefer Hell, slide! Any fool can do that, but the man who will prefer Death to Life just for one little slide is indeed a fool and a motley fool at that. Christianity means a climb against the tide and from the standpoint of the worldly slider it's rough work.

Yes, the slider thought Jesus, The Happy, was a fool when he might have slid into worldly kingships. But, poor fool, he did not know that this brief life is but a span in the vast eternity of Life made for him and you and me.

From the view point of the world, true Christianity is always catching Hell now. And it's all because the poor fools can't see they've been blinded by the deceitfulness of sin.

"Turn ye, turn ye. Why will you die?"

Notice the prizes for boys offered on cover. THE IDEA out every Saturday.

## Vote, Man, Vote!

---

Vote, man, vote!

If you think the gang embezzles people's power  
Do not stay at home and grumble by the hour,  
Nor, in feeble spite, turn on your neighbors sour.—

Go and vote, man, vote!

Vote, man, vote!

When you catch "the ring" in any fraud or trick,  
If you do not vote you have no right to kick;  
You can break it up; then go and knock it quick,

With a vote, man, vote!

Vote, man, vote!

Where there is a wrong there's sure to be a right;  
When you do not vote 'tis but yourself you spite  
Do not be a sneak and keep out of the fight—

Go and vote, man, vote.

Vote, man. vote!

Do not call yourself a live American,  
Nor pretend to love your country or your clan;  
Never claim to be a "decent sort of man"

Till you vote, man, vote!

Vote, man, vote!

'Tis the noblest thing that any man can do  
For himself and home and all that's good and true.  
If you are a man—a man all through and through—

You will vote, man, vote!

Vote, man, vote!

It's a sacred trust that you must never break;  
For your country's good, and for your honor's sake,  
Never sell yourself, nor any bargain make,

When you vote, man, vote!

—Minnesota Issue.

# Rotten Norfolk

## Waking Up

### A Lesson for Richmond

FROM the way the Norfolk people, last Monday, hissed Tom Martin, the biggest political boss Virginia has ever been saddled with, it looks as tho the men down there meant to clean up the crooked machine that has had things its own way for so long.

Report has it that the young men of that town are out for an organization with the motto, "Political honesty."

There is great need in Richmond for exactly the same thing, but there never was a town, so it seems, that would take more outrageous treatment at the hands of organized grafters, after the people have been shown where and who the grafters are, than Richmond.

The voters seem to be absolutely at a loss to know what to do or abjectly in fear of the bunch that seems to own them body and soul.

We have yet to read of a more cringing, boot-licking, subservient bunch of voters than we find here. They seem to fear to talk politics above a whisper, lest some saloon hanger-on may go and tell Clyde Saunders or Chris Manning, Tom Martin's machine workers in the city.

Let Richmond people wake up and come out into the open and the foul political rottenness that poisons the atmosphere will vanish like darkness before the sunshine.

But just as long as they sit idly by and say, "I'm afraid it will hurt my business" so long will Richmond rot at the core.

# Times-Dispatch

## Straddler

THE other day The Great Supreme (by the way the morning straddler seems to have recently gotten sick of using that conceited name for itself) came out in an editorial strongly commending Andrew Carnegie for his brief statement against strong drink

Just a few days before we noticed this same "Supreme" dilating on the effects of the mint-julep and thus commending the very same poison which they later condemn.

We suppose that what the two-faced paper really means is this: "It's all right for me, The Times-Dispatch man to have all the booze I desire but the working man must not have it, for if he does he'll break up my presses and won't be as valuable to me, whose slave he is."

Next to the cowardly crime of taking neither side of a moral question is the contemptible, deceitful vice of being on either side of the question, just as public opinion or expediency pulls the jumping jack string.

For appearance's sake be a man and face the music if you are always on the *wrong* side.

If one must be wrong let him be wrong right.

Don't be a spy and say you are for us while you are an enemy in the camp.

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# Manning Insults The Publisher

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## Crutchfield Does Not Punish for Contempt

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### News-Leader's Account Was False

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ON Saturday of last week on the appearance in court of C. Manning, Jr., on a charge of interfering with an officer in the performance of his duty, Mr. Manning became so indignant at the thought of the appearance of Commonwealth's Attorney Folkes against him that he immediately lost his head and cried out, "This man is nothing but a buzzard." (He did not say, as the News-Leader printed it, "A scurrilous, human buzzard." The Leader seems to have great difficulty in telling the truth.)

At that remark Justice John rebuked C. Manning, Jr., but he did not do what he should have done, namely, fine him for contempt of court.

The publisher of THE IDEA was in this same court room openly insulted by Dutch Leaman on a former occasion but Leaman was not arrested. We wonder how many days the publisher of THE IDEA would have had to spend in jail if he had used such language "in the presence of the court."

In the Law and Equity Court Judge Ingram permitted attorney Scott, last winter to villify and disgracefully insult the editor and did not even rap his gavel for order, and yet when the court on that occasion announced that it would

adjourn and those in attendance began to leave, the publisher of THE IDEA put his hat on his head and this same judge Ingram harshly reprimanded him and announced that he had not yet formally adjourned the court. Then he adjourned the court.

In the Richmond Courts if the much despised publisher of THE IDEA dares do anything more than bow the knee to the all important judges he endangers his liberty but members of the ring may treat him as unlawfully as they please and the courts may be brought into the direst contempt by them but the judges simply refuse to carry out the law and punish for the offence which is more than one against the individual,—it is one against the very dignity of the State itself.

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# Treason

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## Chapter 179, Code of Virginia

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### Of Offences Against the Sovereignty of the State

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Sec. 3658. *Treason Defined:* Treason shall consist only in levying war against the State, or adhering to its enemies, giving them aid and comfort, or establishing, without authority of the legislature, any government within its limits separate from the existing government, or holding or executing, in such usurped government, any office, or professing allegiance or fidelity to it, or resisting the execution of the laws under color of its authority; and such treason, if proved by the testimony of two witnesses to the same overt act, or by confession in court, shall be punished with death. (1377-8 P. 270.)

# Jesus---The Bold

---

**H**ISTORY tells us that several centuries ago there arose in an eastern country a priest who went into the churches of his native city on the Sabbath day and preached to the people and his preaching was so forceful that history tells us that the people were astonished and offended at it and so he left his native city to preach in other places.

In a nearby city his preaching was again so bold that the people said, "This is hard talk. Who can stand it?" And some of his friends deserted him, for his language was harsh, and the rulers censured him for not obeying certain forms of the law and he turned upon them and censured them by calling them hypocrites, and going into other cities he fired into the rulers and showed up their sins and warned the people against them, and wherever he went the rulers opposed him until he was constrained to remark, "The world hates me because I say of it, 'Its works are evil.'" And going into his capital city to preach, some said, "He is a good man", and others said, "Not so; he is deceiving the people." But of the multitude many believed him tho the rulers sent officers to arrest him for they said, "This man came down here from Gallilee." And he got more harsh and more personal in his preaching toward them and told them, "You are of your father, the devil. He was a murderer from the beginning, . . . . He is a liar and the father thereof." And they said, "You've got a devil; you're crazy." And they took up stones to throw at him, but he got away from them. And the people were divided about him. Some said he was crazy while others said, "Can a crazy man do the works he does."

So they took up stones again to stone him, and he said, "Many good deeds have I done, for which of these deeds do you stone me?" And they replied, "We don't stone you

for your good work but for your talk, for slander." So he had to leave the city.

On another occasion he took dinner with a ruler and they got into an argument because he did not observe a certain ceremony and the priest began to curse the ruler, saying; "Woe unto you, Politicians, for you love the chief seats in the churches and the greetings in the market places." And when he went out the ring crowd began to press upon him vehemently to provoke him to say many things, laying wait for him to catch him in some statement and whatsoever he did they watched and took word to the rulers about him.

Finally the rulers had a meeting and took council how they might put him to death. And they charged him with having as friends at his table publicans and sinners.

## At the Trial

- ( Chris. Manning was there
- ) Dutch Leaman was there
- ( Clyde Saunders was there
- ) Douglas Gordon was there
- ( Harry Smith was there
- ) Dave Richardson was there
- ( T. H. Ellétt was there
- ) Rex Griffin was there

Clyde Saunders went on Chris. Manning's bail in police court last Saturday.

## The City Council

(What An Old Man Said the Other Day In The Idea Office)

"I've noticed for the last 50 years that you put a man in there with an old rusty suit of clothes on and a worn out hat and in a week or ten days he's dressed in fine clothes. If there was not something in it they would not climb up so fast."



The reason some good people don't understand the publisher of THE IDEA is that tho he would sacrifice his reputation for a principle he will not sell his character for a world.

---

## Whom the Gods Would Destroy They First Make Mad

---

It begins to look like the ring would be broken when the ringsters get mad and talk "Buzzard" in court.

---

## Contempt of Court

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Section 3768 of the Code of Virginia limits the power of judges to punish summarily for contempt and gives only five cases. The first refers to *Misbehavior in the presence of the court.*

The third refers to *Obscene or insulting language used in the presence of the court* in respect to any proceeding in such court.

Under the head of either one of these cases the justice could have fined C. Manning twenty dollars and imprisoned him ten days.

In Lynchburg a petty judge, Frank P. Christian, fined the editor of THE IDEA fifty dollars and sentenced him to jail for 15 days, and it cost him nearly \$500.00 to defend himself against the unlawful proceeding, although he had never violated any contempt statute. Ex-Gov. Montague and Senator Strode defended him before the Supreme Court.

No. Whenever we get punished by the courts it is because we have not the money to carry the case to the Supreme Court, which has never decided against us and never will lawfully do so, because we always keep within the limits of the law.

# Preachers

---

WE ARE a little disappointed over the reception which has met our roasting the preachers. Everywhere we go we hear people saying, "I'm so glad you've gotten after the preachers, they need it. They have not stood by you in your fight and they are people above all others whom the people have a right to expect to keep Richmond clean. I hope you will put dynamite into them. They are afraid of the politicians." This is the line of talk we hear, and worse than this. Preachers would be surprised to know from what quiet, thoughtful men these sentiments come. We are, indeed disappointed to know that it is universally recognized by laymen that the preachers, the watchmen, posted to tell us of the night, are recreant to their duty.

If the preachers are worthy of half the criticisms we hear heaped upon them, no wonder Richmond is fallen so low. We are glad to say that we know a few preachers in Richmond that are bold enough to openly fight public evils when it is unpopular but their number is not legion, and according to our little knowledge of the methods of the Master there is not one who dares follow Him in that. The people are like sheep without a shephead, utterly without leadership. *An opportunity of the ages for a man.* "Who will rise up for me against the evil doer?"

## On To The Grand Jury Folkes

---

As predicted in THE IDEA last week, Folkes sided with the evil doers against the right and took advantage of a very doubtful legal technicality to save C. Manning's hide. When there was no case against THE IDEA publisher as he himself afterwards was forced to admit, he let the

(Continued on page 16.)

## POLLOCK AND THE JUDGE.

(Concluded from page 3.)

Then a bystander spoke out and said to the old man that if he wanted a real good divorce lawyer he could find him at No. so-and-so on — — street, to which the darkey replied, "No, I reckon I better go to see Mr. Pollock. 'Cause he phoned down dar to him and he told me to go dar."

He advised him too that he certainly had better go there then.

Now stop a minute, good citizen, and consider:

- (1) Pollock is councilman.
- (2) The council decides Crutchfield's salary.
- (3) Pollock gets the bulk of the police court practice.
- (4) Yet the darkey says, "De judge" directed him to go to find Pollock.

The New York Globe of last week gave about 3 inches to the rotten situation in Richmond.

## A Plea for Coarseness

The most enduring, the most subtle, the most dangerous, of human instincts is the instinct that commands us to shut our eyes to whatever is unpleasant, even if it be the truth. The rebellious Jews said to their prophets, "Prophecy not unto us right things, speak unto us smooth things, prophecy deceits."

The doctrine of the divine right of kings, prostitution, alcoholism, child-labor, all the cancerous diseases that spread because of the human tendency to let well-enough alone, all the evils that sap the strength of nations and of men, are sweet and subtle, are tender and delicate. To end them we must be *bitter and brutal, rough and coarse*. The tyranny that endures is a delicate tyranny, the successful lie must be a delicate lie; but truth to triumph, must be tough. — Reginald Wright Kauffman in The Cosmopolitan.

## The Duty of a Citizen

---

"It is not only the right but the duty of a citizen to make complaint of any misconduct on the part of officials to those charged with supervision over them, and their right and privilege to discuss the fitness or misconduct of such officials with tax payers in the town in which they live."

So spoke the Supreme Court of the State of Virginia in the Gatewood Garrett Libel case. (106 Va. 552.)

Tho all other citizens neglect their clear duty as sovereign citizens THE IDEA will feel perfectly at ease in making complaint of any misconduct on the part of police commissioners or of any other officers to the courts, who are charged with general supervision over all the functions of the State.

---

### *Dull Safety Razor Blades*

**2 1-2 CENTS EACH**

Let our experts put your old dull blades in perfect condition for above price.

**OLD STYLE RAZORS HONED AND SET, 15c EACH  
SCISSORS AND KNIVES SHARPENED**

**Work Guaranteed**

**SPECIALS**

**AS LONG AS THEY LAST**

\$2.50 Razors reduced to	\$1.25
\$2.00 " " " "	\$1.00
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\$1.50 Razor Strop	\$.75
\$1.00 Bottle Eau de Quinine Hair Tonic	\$.49
\$.75 Jar Vie-Veer Massage Cream	\$.49

Imported Perfumes, Toilet Waters, Face Lotions and a Full Line of Toilet Supplies at Reduced Prices.

**THE "SHARP-O" CO.**

608 East Main Street



## ON TO THE GRAND JURY

(Concluded from page 13.)

crooks use him, on a little misdemeanor warrant too, to deliver a tirade of prosecution against us and helped Crutchfield convict us and he also did the same thing on a libel warrant.

When, however, a warrant was issued against Manning, a fellow-officer, in the name of the commonwealth too, Mr. Folkes hied himself away to the country, and then when he did return refused to prosecute altho he admits a crime was committed.

*Our next move will be to take the matter before the grand jury, most likely, on a charge of misdemeanor in office against Mr. Folkes himself.*

---

## From Thanatopsis

Yet not to thine eternal resting place  
 Shalt thou retire alone—nor couldst thou wish  
 Couch more magnificent. Thou shalt lie down  
 With patriarchs of the infant world—with kings,  
 The powerful of the earth, the wise, the good,  
 Fair forms, and hoary seers of ages past,  
 All in one mighty sepulchre  
 . . . . . And what if thou withdraw  
 Unheeded from the living, and no friend  
 Take note of thy departure? All that breathe  
 Will share thy destiny. The gay will laugh  
 When thou art gone, the solemn brood of care  
 Plod on, and each one as before will chase  
 His favorite phantom. . . . .

So live that when thy summons comes to join  
 The innumerable caravan, that moves  
 To that mysterious realm, where each shall take  
 His chamber in the silent halls of death,  
 Thou go not like the quarry slave at night,  
 Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed  
 By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave  
 Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch  
 About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.

—William Cullen Bryant.

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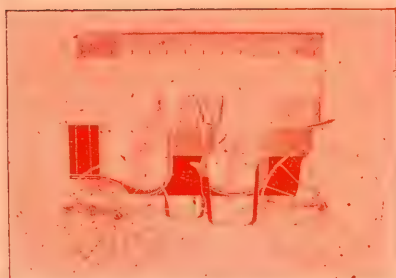
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## *Barbour Buggy Company*

WHOLESALE MANUFACTURERS

*South Boston, Virginia*



If you want a first class Buggy,  
Surrey or Farm Wagon  
don't fail to call on

*Hoenniger-Sizemore Co.*

No. 1433 East Main Street  
Richmond, - Virginia

All work first class and fully guaranteed.  
Write to us for prices on Automobile Tops.

## To Advertisers

Extract from a letter to the publisher of The Idea from The  
Retail Merchants Association:

"Regarding the approval of THE IDEA as an advertising medium, I beg to say that if it has a paid circulation and is entered at the post-office as second class matter, it is all right and does not require the approval of the association for its members to use it. I haven't a copy of the paper before me but presume it complies with both requirements, and if so any of our members are free to use it as an advertising medium without any approval from the association.

W. A. CLARKE, Jr., Secretary

THE IDEA has a paid circulation and is entered at the post-office under date of July 10, 1909, as second class mail matter.

*It's the best advertising medium in town. Write us for rates.*

**A. A. YODER**

---

## 6 WATCHES FOR BOYS



THE IDEA will give away to the six boys selling the largest number of IDEAS in their sections six handsome watches as follows:—

One watch each will be given to each of the six boys who sell the greatest number of IDEAS from the following six IDEA stations:

West End—Model News Co., 519 W. Broad

Church Hill—Waller's Store, Jefferson and Clay

Down Town—Idea Office, 1106 Capitol Street

Manchester—Abbott's Store, Hull Street

Petersburg—Jones' Store, 101 Washington

Lynchburg—Shepherd's 900 Main Street



WEEKLY 5c THE COPY

# THE IDEAL

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

Vol. IV

September 24, 1910

No. 3

TOO CROOKED FOR HIM



Ex-Police:—"They made me swear I'd enforce the law, and then told me they'd fire me if I did it."

Being some sermonettes published Weekly for the common good at  
Richmond, Va., by Adon A. Yoder, editor, publisher and printer  
1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Virginia.



JEWELER J. S. JAMES OPTICIAN  
7th AND MAIN STS.

We are showing special good values in  
*Diamonds, Watches, Jewelry,*  
*Silverware, Cut Glass, Etc.*  
We invite your inspection

## Print it Right.

Leave your Job Printing at The Idea office. The Idea Presses will do it at a most reasonable figure, 'Phone Monroe 2708,

HEADQUARTERS for your sick wants; your family and toilet wants, in Drugs and Medicines

Sick Feeders, Bandages, Crutches, Rubber Water Bottles, Bags and Sheeting, Douches, Thermometers, Supporters, Trusses, Cushions, Toilet Soaps and other requisites, Delicate Flavorings and Fine Perfumery Extracts.

- A. H. ROBINS, -  
200 E. MARSHALL ST.

Goods delivered anywhere in the city.  
Phone Madison 1388, if busy, Madison 5272.

# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

SEPTEMBER 24, 1910

No. 33

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## Minetree Folkes

—

### Crawfish

---

LAST Fall, one year ago, the publisher of THE IDEA went to see Minetree Folkes about the lack of law enforcement in Richmond, referring to Sunday selling, selling whiskey without license, and flagrant violation of the House of Ill Fame Statute. On the question of houses of ill fame Folkes gave as his reason for not proceeding against them that while in a general way everybody knew that they existed, yet he could not go on the witness stand and swear that of his own knowledge such was the case in any given instance. At that time we did not know that the direct evidence that would convict in court was on file in the office of the Chief of Police and that these houses were practically licensed as such houses of ill fame by the police

department and that the Commonwealth's Attorney of course knew that the chief of police kept a picture gallery of all these scarlet women in the red light district.

Finally this evidence came out in court and we found that the reason given by Folkes for not prosecuting these women was not the real one for he was present at the trial and it could no longer be said that he was ignorant of the action of the police board in openly licensing this vice. He did not take any action after he heard the evidence and today, six months after, he has still refused to prosecute these women and the police who protect them in the violation of their oaths.

This shows conclusively that Folkes himself, the State officer whose prime business is to see that State laws are not ignored, is just as guilty as Manning, who confessed that he, as a police commissioner, kept the police from arresting these women. Captain Barfoot testified on the stand that if he caught a woman running a house of ill fame in the red light district he would simply take her picture and Folkes heard it, and yet *he don't know* that these houses are houses of ill fame.

It is just as plain as daylight to any one with eyes, that Folkes is a party to the crime of protecting people against the law of the land while sworn to do exactly the opposite.

The other day when we called again to get him to prosecute Manning, Folkes not only showed by his turning the case out of court (*before the evidence was heard*) that he desired to protect his fellow office holder, Manning, but he showed by his talk that he did not want to break up this evil at all, tho he knew it was his sworn duty to do so, and he again said to us that he had not been down there to see and he personally could not swear that the law was violated, in spite of the testimony of Manning and Barfoot and Werner the Chief.

The real truth is that Minetree Folkes, to save his own hide, will crawl-fish out of his duty even when it is placed before him officially. Just because if he did not the ring

would tell him at next election they did not want him and everybody in Richmond knows that the ring comes mighty near electing its man.

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## Police Commissioners Want More Money for 30 More Police

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### How They Can Reduce the Force

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Now comes the report that police commissioners want more money for 36 more policemen.

If they would attempt to eliminate vice with the force they have instead of encouraging crime by attempting to regulate it they would have so little work to do that they could cut down the force instead of increasing it. Other cities find they can do with less police and have vastly less criminal expense when they enforce the law, but crooked politicians have so pulled the wool over the eyes of the people that some of them think they can't do without this protected evil.

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Josiah Quincy on the Impeachment of Public Officers in January, 1768:

*"Woe unto the Land when the Greatness of the Criminal shall dismay his Accusers, and his Authority shall make the righteous Man to tremble; when the enormous Power of Guilt shall exalt itself above the Judgment Seat and bid Defiance to the Tribunal of Justice!"*—Reprinted from a former number of IDEA.



## Graft In Automobile Ambulance Keeping for the City

---

**WE** DARE the Council Committee on Relief of the Poor to show to the public an itemized statement of the \$256.93 for repairs and oil for the month of August, stating *to whom* all this money went.

It ought not to cost the city more than about \$50.00 or \$60.00 a month to keep up a horse ambulance and the horse is almost as speedy as the automobile ought to go through the streets of the city. Besides, this \$256.93 is exorbitant and there is a leak somewhere.

We understand also these large bills unnecessarily made are paid over to a favored few who chance to stand in with those in charge and that the work is not let out to the lowest bidder.

The economy that would come if one councilman were paid to give his time to such things would bring a vast saving to the city, but this extravagant dealing will continue to exist just so long as bills can be made without check by men not directly responsible to the people but who are responsible only to a committee which gets no pay and which never sees the bills, perhaps, until the thing bought is worn out.

The party responsible that pays the bills should also be in such close touch with the situation as to *know beforehand* what is to be bought. This can only be attained by having a small body of paid councilmen elected by all the citizens (not by wards) and who give all their time to the city instead of their worn out evening hours, perhaps two hours per month.

---

Subscribe to THE IDEA today, only two dollars a year on the weekly basis. If you don't you may miss the copy you most want.

# On Preachers

---

(If you read this half way you won't know what we are driving at. Put your thinking cap on.—Ed.)

JESUS called the Scribes and Pharisees, the religious D. D's and Preachers and Teachers of his day, hypocrites and then turned to his followers and told them to do what these same scribes told them to do.

His denunciations of these men were so drastic and harsh and fierce that one would expect to find these men the most evil minded men. But Jesus cited no crimes that they did and admitted that their preaching was good.

One naturally wonders why the Master so severely censured them and the question comes were these religious teachers any different from the preachers of our own day and time.

Let's see what he charged them with. He said they made broad their phylacteries—made a show of religious forms and apparel—just what modern day preachers are doing, even wearing clothes entirely different from other people to place themselves above others. He also said they loved the chief places in the synagogue and at feasts, and it is a fact well known by all who associate with preachers that they as a class are worldly minded enough to be moved by many petty jealousies and sordid desires to be first in the eyes of men, to have a large charge, etc. etc.

Now for other men to have such worldly desires is but natural but it is not natural for spiritual leaders to lay stress on physical or external things and such things are carnal and opposed to spirituality and therefore a worldly minded preacher is simply a hypocrite, however good his preaching may be and however orthodox his talk and conversation may be.

The point is this: that the good men of Christ's day were

called hypocrites and we are thoroughly convinced that Jesus would censure today church leaders and preachers just as much as He did nineteen centuries ago, because any class of men set up as religious leaders is always found guilty of the same faults. Jesus did not found any external church organization and set up no preacher above any people. He called all Christians to the same humility of life and measured all men by service and not by position.

He openly denounced preachers who let themselves be called Rabbi or Father, equivalent in our day to Rev., Dr., and Father. And yet we call ourselves Christians and pay no more attention to his teachings on these subjects than we pay to the blowing of the wind. Just what Jesus said of the preachers of His day is applicable today. Do what they tell you to do but don't follow their example. They are good men, the best class of men on earth as a class, yet absolutely opposed in their practices to the standards Jesus set up, namely, the standard of menial and humble service—service means deeds, it don't simply mean correct teaching.

Jesus came dressed like other people, a man among men, and the servant should not be greater than the Master.

Organized Christianity's mistake came in setting up a priesthood, the very thing that Jesus came to overthrow. He called every Christian to be a witness and there is no class distinction in the church of Christ, which as far as Christ Himself taught, never was an external organization.

The God of Christianity is Spirit and those who would worship Him must worship in Spirit. The Form of Religion always has and always will destroy the Spirit of it. Therefore, Christian, do not look to churches to fight evil (until it becomes popular for they are carnal organizations and will do any good work when it becomes popular). The true effectual fight against any evil is always made by individuals, the glory is reaped by so-called Christian organizations afterwards,—after the organization has found it pays to get in the band wagon.

Whether the majority of the members of the churches



realize it or not our formal churches have become commercialized and cannot be used to fight any evil until the men who pay the preacher will permit it, and just as it takes worldly minded men to make worldly treasure—money—worldly men practically dictate the policy of the churches as such. The good the members of churches are doing through their churches is in spite of the men of means whose desires so largely govern the actions of pulpit and organization.

With all due respect to those good men among the church ministry whose aid we have had so far as they felt they could give it, we are forced to conclude that Jesus opposed the action these good men have taken and called it hypocritical because He knew, as many of them are finding out, that however good they may be they can never live the ideal Christian life and serve the carnal order by becoming the hired teacher of that order.

From our knowledge of those preachers whose official connection, as pastors, with churches has held them back in rendering their best service, we are constrained to feel the deepest sympathy for those who still endeavor to occupy those positions which Jesus called hypocritical, and still render Christian service.

---

IN Richmond it is a noticeable fact that the women of the red light district go to a certain chosen few at the markets for their provisions and it is also alleged that these women are forced to do their trading at certain furniture stores and dry goods stores. All of this, it is rumored, being a part of the political machine graft that has been found on investigation to appear in other cities as a result of the understanding between women of ill fame and the police.

---

*See us first*    ❀    ❀    ❀

See us before placing your order for printing

PHONE MONROE 2708



# Craft and Graft

---

(Written for The Idea by a preacher.)

THERE are some things so closely allied in the world that to touch one you touch both. Sin and wrong doing are so deeply intrenched in many places that to touch it in one place is like touching the electric button which the little girl touched in New York that blew up Hellgate. We read and hear of graft in political circles, in commerce and in contracts, but no one seems willing to publicly denounce graft in the pulpit. But sir, we believe that graft has reached the man in cloth; and that it pays to keep silent about certain issues and certain crafts.

The world knows, the devil knows, and everybody else knows we are living in days when men can take a seat in the meeting house and stay there unmolested and carry on questionable business undisturbed. For instance, I heard of a preacher sometime ago who said he had a whiskey drummer a member of his steepled house crowd, whom he was afraid to "turn out", afraid he would go to the bad. Think of it! A whiskey peddler go to the bad. How much lower in sin could a man drop than to peddle distilled disgrace and damnation, a stuff that will starve innocent childhood, make a brute of the father and drive the poor mother to desperation. And think of a preacher who will allow this to go on unmolested under his nose.

Not only this, but things equally as vile. I heard of a leading church in this city whose clerk was a wholesale whiskey dealer.

A few months ago with two other missionaries I visited a Mayo street sporting house. The woman who keeps the *dive* was a native of South Carolina. We read the Bible and prayed with this poor erring woman. Then I asked her what rent she paid for the house. She told me she was paying \$12.50 per week for the house ready furnished in-

cluding an automatic musical organ; but she had been paying \$15.00 per week; and she told whom she rented from, a firm in the real estate business, the leading member of the firm was also, I understood, a leading member of one of the up town city churches. Does he collect this rent from this poor fallen woman in this immoral traffic in lust and disease and take any part of it up town and put it to salary of the man who refuses to cry aloud and spare not.

Every man knows this business is perpetuated only by refusing to expose it and yet, sir, while sin abounds, and like the frogs in Pharaoh's kingly house, everywhere these men, leaders of the people behind the sacred desk, are as silent as an Egyptian mummy about these things. Who will dare to expose these conditions as they ought to be exposed? Who? who? who?

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## One Law for the Politicians Another for Private Citizens

---

ON Wednesday, the 14th, Justice John dismissed the case brought by the publisher of THE IDEA against C. Manning, Jr., for interfering with an officer on the advice of Folkes that Manning did not "interfere" according to law. On Thursday, the next day, the 15th, the same Justice John fined a man \$10.00 and the papers say it was on the "technical" charge of "interfering with an officer", tho the evidence did not show any interference either according to law or in any other way. If there were any interference why call it the "technical charge?"

*Also why is it that technicalities are allowed against a private citizen and not allowed against a ring politician? And*

*the answer is that the ring politicians in Richmond can use the courts and the officers of the law to suit themselves.*

If you call that treason or libel or contempt of court, get mad. Then swallow it. In the case of the Manning warrant there was actual interference; in the other case there was neither moral nor physical interference.

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# Is It Wise To Break Up the Red Light District?

---

Police Surgery Decreases 90 Per Cent.

Criminal Cases Decrease One Third

Police Stop Guarding Criminals and Protect Tax Payers

---

(George K. Turner, recognized authority on municipal problems, and known in the magazine world for his accurate and clear cut delineations of American city reform movements, wrote in last May's McClure's a most interesting and instructive article on the City of Des Moines and what it has accomplished under the plan of government by a small paid council elected at large, commonly called Government by Commission. Below we quote what he writes concerning the Red Light District and the result of breaking it up.)

Hamery, in charge of the Department of Public Safety, started for the Red Light district—first, to prevent illegal liquor-selling there, and then to break up the “vice trust.”

This so-called “vice trust” was the product of the policy of segregation in Des Moines. For fifty years the city had kept its frontier-town quarter of brothels, and accepted the easy doctrine that a segregated district is a necessity of city life. In theory, this district was

supposed to keep vice from the rest of the city; in practice, two-fifths of the vicious women were confined to the district, and the rest scattered across the town.

### THE CITY'S SHARE

On the last day of each month the women appeared in police court and paid their ten, fifteen, and twenty-five dollar fines—the younger and more prosperous treating easily with the Chief of Police, and the older and more broken pleading with the police judge to remit the city's share until they could save it from their earnings.

Two months in the year—at Christmas-time and just before election—the city and the Red light district exchanged courtesies. The city, on its part, remitted the monthly fines; while the police came back from the Red Light district at Christmas-tide bearing holiday burdens—for the Chief of Police, good-sized diamonds; for the men, various luxuries—at times a gunny-bag full of boxes of cigars slung over the shoulders of the sergeant who did the collecting. How much more was taken by the police is not exactly known; nor the exact *contribution of the Red Light district to the various city administrations at election-time*. Both were ample; and the influence of the district on the morals and the service of the police force was the worst. This thing went on undisturbed from year to year; it was one of the established institutions of the city. . . .

Some years ago the railways and the business interests in the locality of the former segregated district demanded its removal. At that time Levich was chief professional bondsman, picking up, through his relations with the police, a considerable income by bailing out prisoners. Being close to the police, he and a few others—largely his own relatives—learned in advance where the police proposed to locate the new district of segregation. . . . Levich and his friends owned some property there, and they soon leased other places for from five to fifteen dollars a month. The immoral women were herded into the district by the police. The members of the "vice trust" who were in the city officials' confidence, . . . leased them to the women at a scale of prices ranging from three to five dollars a day, payable strictly in advance. Every night, Billy Watt, the collector for Levich, went down the street with a satchel

(Continued on page 14.)



# One Law for Rich Another for Poor

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## Wagon Driver Locked Up

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## Automobilist Simply Reported for the Same Offence

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**W**HEN a wealthy automobilist is guilty of reckless speeding in the streets of the city, the practice is to simply take his number and report the offender.

Frequently the owner who is summonsed into court testifies that he was not in the car at the time,—that it was in the hands of others,—and the guilty party is thus not even summoned into court.

The difference in the treatment accorded a poor wagon driver the other day was so marked as to astound those who believe in equality before the law. A poor man was driving his wagon along Broad street when his line got caught under the horse's tail. The horse ran two blocks before he was stopped. Then a policeman placed the driver under arrest, put handcuffs on him, left his horse in the street, took him to the station, locked him up, did not allow him to telephone to friends, and it was 8 o'clock the next morning before he could arrange bail. Then he came into police court without having time to get witnesses for himself. The policeman alone appeared against him,—only one witness,—and the only charge was reckless driving. On this charge and after such Russian like procedure, the driver was fined

\$10.00. Then he had to go to Bliley's Livery and pay Bliley, the councilman, for keeping his horse. On the wagon was a gum coat and whip when the arrest was made. When the owner got out his coat and whip were gone, his money was gone in fine to the city and feed to the councilman and he had spent from noon one day till 8 A. M. the next in the police station, all because by accident he had, *perhaps*, technically violated a statute for the violation of which on the part of a wealthy autoist the rich man is sometimes *reported* and then, perhaps sometimes fined. Now THE IDEA does not contend that the rich man should be treated like this poor man was treated but it does contend that the poor man should be afforded the same justice that the rich man was afforded.

THE LAW should know no difference in rich and poor, bond or free, black or white or yellow.

From our close observance of the procedure of police and courts in Richmond, it depends almost altogether on your standing with the powers that be whether you get justice or not. The poor man catches it while the rich goes free. The friend of politicians is protected in crime while the enemy is punished without crime. The Virginia negro known to the judge sometimes gets justice while the North Carolina negro is convicted at birth.

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RAZORS HONED AND SET, 15 CENTS

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**THE "SHARP-O" CO.**

**BARBER SUPPLIES AND GRINDING**

608 East Main Street

## Is It Wise To Break Up the Red Light District?

(Concluded from page 11.)

slung across his shoulder, collecting his rents and taking the proceeds of the automatic pianos, which, by order of the police, furnished the only music in the street, and were owned and operated by the "trust."

The combination that controlled the houses soon controlled their trade as well in groceries, liquor, and the general necessities of life.

Under the stringent enforcement of the Iowa statutes, and the friendly understanding with the local law officials, the "vice trust" not only had the segregated district in its control, but, if the women at work there should attempt to escape, it could, generally speaking, bring them back.

Mose Levich's relations with the police, as the chief recognized professional bondsman at the police station, were very close. This odd extra official of the city stalking about the corridors of the police station early attracted the restless and inquiring mind of the new manager of the department, Councilman Hamery. He soon discovered another established custom that seemed to him very strange. He found that the papers of candidates aspiring to the police force, under civil service, bore the name of Mr. Levich as a guaranty of their good moral character. Hamery refused to accept this guaranty, began a general investigation, and secured copies of the leases controlled by the "vice trust," and affidavits from women who had left the district and had been brought back again by the process of law. He then placed the whole sensational story of the "vice trust" in the waiting hands of the newspapers, and started proceedings before the grand jury.

There was at that time not one of the five councilmen who wanted to wipe out the Red Light district system in Des Moines, or who was much disturbed over the situation discovered there. *The majority believed in and advocated the general policy of segregation.* But, unexpectedly, over their heads and against their wishes, public opinion forced a clearing of the town.

For some time before the election, the *Register and Leader*—

always foremost in local reforms—had advocated wiping out the district. On exposure of the conditions, both this paper and the *News* called for a general clean-up. The women of the city were aroused, held a mass meeting, invited Councilman Hamery before them, and read him the laws of Iowa on vice.

"Are you, or are you not, going to enforce the law?" they asked.

The Newspapers asked each of the other councilmen the same question. They evaded it.

"Ask Hamery; he's head of the police," they said.

Hamery stood alone. Everybody's attention was focused upon him. For a week he refused entirely to discuss the question: he was busy with prosecuting the "vice trust"; he could not decide; he doubted whether it could be done.

Then at last he gave in.

"I couldn't be the one man that stood between those people and the law," he said.

And so, after three generations, the Red Light district of Des Moines was closed.

Sheer force of public opinion had compelled a revolution in the morals of the town—simply because, under the new system of government, it found at once the man who was responsible, and forced him to act.

Once started, Councilman Hamery plunged into the work of clearing up Des Moines with his usual thoroughness. The segregated district was closed on the day appointed, September 15, 1908. Women left the city by the car-load, and ever since they have been constantly and persistently hunted from the town.

Public opinion, again voiced by the newspapers, was largely responsible for starting a further *movement against old practices in the department and police court*, some six months after the vice campaign.

Professional bondsmen still appeared at that time in the police station, making their profits from prisoners of all kinds, with the tolerance of the police. It was a custom too old to attract attention.

"Why should the city of Des Moines hold prisoners while these bond sharks go through their pockets?" inquired the *Register and Leader* one morning. And this old scandal was immediately abolished.

The result of this change has been a very marked advance in civilization in Des Moines. The city doctors at the police station estimate that the amount of police surgery made necessary by murders, assaults, and suicides has decreased to a small percentage of what it was ("not over ten per cent." one doctor says) when the Red Light district continually sent in its stream of cases. The streets are more orderly; and the amount of general crime has noticeably decreased.



Lawrence De Graff, the prosecuting attorney until the beginning of this year, and since then judge in charge of the session of the district court, states that *the annual business in that court decreased a full third almost immediately upon the closing of the Red Light district. The criminals and semi-criminals who are friends or parasites of these vicious women have left the town.*

The professional thief, who, traveling between larger places like Chicago and Kansas City, found the *Red Light district* of the smaller city a *convenient hiding-place*, no longer comes into Des Moines. There have been practically no burglaries or "hold-ups" in the city for over a year. This is not all due to the closing of the Red Light district, but, estimating the indirect effect upon the police force as well as the direct influence, a very great share is traceable to it.

"In former times," says Assistant Chief A. H. Day, of the police force, "*we kept twice the men guarding the criminals in the Red Light district while they were committing crimes that we did protecting taxpayers and their families up in the residence district. Now we make it our only business to protect the taxpayers against the criminals.*"

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## One on Manning

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When the publisher was after Manning in police court, Manning, stung, sang out, "This man is nothing but a buzzard." We would ask, what do buzzards get after, and what particular piece of rotten carrion was the publisher after that day to make Manning call him a buzzard?

If Manning did not mean to call himself corrupt, why did he call his pursuer a buzzard? Yes, there must be something rotten around when a man yells out in public that the buzzards are after him.

The truth will out sometimes.

---

THE IDEA will be out each week from now on. Watch the cartoon next week. It's rich.

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AND

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All work first class and fully guaranteed.  
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Hi Dan,

Cartoon Man



He has some ideas up  
his sleeve and will give us a  
live cartoon every week



## 6 WATCHES FOR BOYS



THE IDEA will give away to the six boys selling the largest number of IDEAS in their sections six handsome watches as follows:—

One watch each will be given to each of the six boys who sell the greatest number of IDEAS from the following six IDEA stores: For the 4 weeks beginning September 24th.

no 1187

West End—Model News Co., 519 W. Broad

Church Hill—Waller's Store, Jefferson and Clay

Down Town—Idea Office, 1106 Capitol Street

100013 1187

Manchester—Abbott's Store, Hull Street

1187 1187

Petersburg—Jones' Store, 101 Washington

Lynchburg—Shepherd's 900 Main Street



WEEKLY 5c THE COPY

# THE IDEAS

A SIGN OF THE TIMES

Vol. IV

October 1, 1910

No. 34

## RICHMOND POLITICS



Manning says the buzzards are after him

Being some sermonettes published Weekly for the common good at  
Richmond, Va., by Adon A. Yoder, editor, publisher and printer  
1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Virginia.



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HEADQUARTERS for your sick wants; your family and toilet wants, in Drugs and Medicines

Sick Feeders, Bandages, Crutches, Rubber Water Bottles, Bags and Sheeting, Douches, Thermometers, Supporters, Trusses, Cushions, Toilet Soaps and other requisites, Delicate Flavorings and Fine Perfumery Extracts.

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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

OCTOBER 1, 1910

No. 34

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## Grand Jury

—  
Will It Be Fixed?

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**W**E have been told that there is no use in trying to take the charges against Manning before the Grand Jury, as that tribunal will be fixed so that we can not get an unbiased hearing, just as was the case recently when the Grand Jury was composed almost entirely of office holders under the machine government of Richmond.

This one thing is true, that the jury which tried the civil libel case in the Law and Equity Court had on it a so-called professional juror who makes it a practice of hanging around City Hall just to make money by jury service and he is often on juries there and he did stand for heavy damages against us when a majority of the jury was with us.

It is also true that the jury in the Hustings Court which tried the criminal libel charge had on it two, if not more, intimate friends of C. Manning, Jr., one of the complainants, and one of these was recently seen collecting bills in the Red Light district.

In view of these facts we are assured by those who say they know that there is no hope of bringing any action before a grand jury against any one of the ring crowd in Richmond, however guilty he may be.

From the treatment we have experienced at the hands of so-called courts of justice in Richmond, we can hardly expect anything like a fair treatment before a grand jury, and yet we are not prepared to believe until we see it done that Judge Witt will deliberately impanel, or permit to be impanelled, a jury selected for its hostility against THE IDEA and its desire to protect police commissioners in crime.

Next week the people may know for themselves. Whatever they do now will only hasten the day when Richmond will throw overboard the nefarious ring which has every office holder in the city afraid to speak his honest convictions for fear some political crock will get his job for services rendered to the machine.

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## On Government Wrongs and How To Destroy Them

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### Virginia, the Machine Ridden, vs. Oregon The People Governed

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IN State governments Pennsylvania, Virginia and New York may be taken as examples of the ultra conservative, out of date, machine ridden, boss ruled States, while Oregon may be taken as the example of the most up

to date, modern, properly governed, boss eliminated State. In Virginia neither are the men elected nor the laws enacted which the people desire. In Oregon the people can and do get the men and the measures they want, and Hon. Jonathan Bourne, Jr., Senator from Oregon, in a speech in the U. S. Congress, May 5th, 1910, told why and how the people have succeeded in actually running their own government. This speech may be had by writing to the Government Printing Office and calling for Document No. 41504-9003. It is intensely interesting and should be in the hands of every student of popular government.

He says: "Oregon has the best system of popular government in the world today. The Australian Ballot, Registration of voters, Initiative and Referendum, Direct Primary, Corrupt Practices Act, Recall, an absolute government by the people."

Below we print a few extracts from Senator Bourne's speech:—

"I think all will concede that the times seem awry. Unrest exists throughout the civilized world. People are speculating as to the causes. Daily uncertainty grows stronger as to future events.

In my opinion, the basic cause is that people have lost confidence in many of their public servants and bitterly resent attempted dictatorship by "would be" political bosses and representatives of special interests who desire to direct public servants and legislation for their own selfish interests rather than assist in the enactment of laws guaranteeing justice to all and special privileges to none.

Successful and permanent government must rest primarily on recognition of the rights of men and the absolute sovereignty of the people.

Popular selection under the present stage of evolution of our Government can be obtained only by direct primary laws and complete elimination of convention and caucus nomination of public officers.

Time was when a few self-constituted leaders in Oregon politics arrogated to themselves the prerogatives of gov-



ernment and made their assumption effective through illicit combinations and the use of money in any and every quarter where necessary to their purposes of control—that is, they commercialized conventicles, legislatures, and the administrative branches of the city, county and state government. It was not a condition peculiar to Oregon. It obtained, and I believe still obtains in a more or less flagrant degree, in every State in the Union; and it had its boldest, most unscrupulous executive genius in Boss Tweed, who, recognizing the opportunity of the crook in government by party through convention nominations, declared he did not care who elected the candidates so long as he had the power to nominate the ticket.

Revolting against the conditions, the State which I have the honor, in part, to represent, has evolved the best-known system of popular government, and, because of this conviction, I take this opportunity of presenting not only to the Senate, but to the country a brief analysis of the Oregon laws bearing upon the question, with my own deductions as to the improvement they show and the merits they possess.

#### AUSTRALIAN BALLOT LAW.

Oregon in 1891 adopted the Australian ballot, which insures secrecy, prevents intimidation, and reduces the opportunity for bribery. This, of course, is a prerequisite to any form of popular government.

#### INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM.

Oregon's next step in popular government was the adoption of the initiative and referendum amendment to the constitution, which amendment was adopted in June, 1902, by a vote of 62,024 to 5,668. It provides that legislative authority shall be vested in a legislative assembly, but that the people reserve to themselves the power to approve or reject at the polls any act of the legislature. An initiative petition must be signed by 8 per cent. of the legal voters,

(Continued on page 14.)

# Francione's Nude Pictures

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## Taken Down

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SOME time ago THE IDEA published the fact that in Francione's place, a well known stag hotel and bar-room arrangement on Broad near 1st street, were two mammoth oil paintings of nude women, evidently put there to draw men in to spend their money in vice. The very act of having these pictures in his possession was a violation of State law, and having them placed in connection with a barroom was a gross violation of the moral law against corrupting the morals of citizens. And yet it was permitted well known to the police, whose duty it is to regularly inspect these places.

Recently, however, we are informed that the walls are no longer decorated, as before, with these vile exhibitions,—that the police have forced them to be removed.

The point is this, that the police find it unprofitable to enforce the law until they are forced to it by publicity. Let the people organize for action and the laws in Richmond will be speedily enforced.

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## Daniel Webster on the Bible

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“If we abide by the principles taught in the Bible, our country will go on prospering and to prosper; but, if we and our posterity neglect its instructions and authority, no man can tell how sudden a catastrophe may overwhelm us and bury all our glory in profound obscurity. The Bible is the book of all others for lawyers as well as divines, and I

pity the man who cannot find in it a rich supply of thought and rule of conduct. I believe Jesus Christ to be the Son of God. The miracles which He wrought establish in my mind His personal authority and render it proper for me to believe what he asserts."

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# The Duty of Officers

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## Law Enforcement Is What You Pay Them for, Says Judge

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A great many men, both in cities and counties, entrusted with the enforcement of law, seem to have a vital misconception as to their duty. It is one of the cardinal doctrines of the Anti-Saloon League that laws should be enforced by the officials who have been chosen to enforce them. In the great majority of cases, however, these officials take the ground that they have no duty in the matter until some private citizen has made complaint. This is especially true in regard to violations of the liquor law. We believe it is the duty of the officials, and not of the citizens, to make complaint; and we are glad to see that this opinion is upheld by Judge Grant, of the Supreme Court of Michigan. Here is what he has to say on the subject:

I want to tell you right here that the next time a law officer says it is not his business to make complaint, and tells you if you will sign the complaint he will set the machinery of the law in motion, that

you can assure him that it is not the duty of any private citizen to do this. It is not safe for any private citizen to attack three kinds of law-breakers—keepers of houses of prostitution, gamblers and liquor dealers who sell unlawfully. The suppression of their illegal business is not the concern of private citizens. . . . Every police officer has the power of government behind him; and lawbreakers know that if they kill the officer, they never can kill the office—that as soon as any one officer is out of the way there is another in his place. Law enforcement is what you pay the officers for, and it is their duty, and not a private citizen's.

Still, no doubt, it will be necessary in a multitude of cases for private citizens to make complaint against violators of liquor laws, until we can secure officials who will both see and do their duty in this matter. It is the duty of officers to make complaints against violators of law. It is the privilege of any citizen, however, to go into court and make affidavit or give information concerning violations of law. The failure of the officer does not always excuse the private citizen from responding to the privilege which he has under the statute. On the other hand, officers should not complain when private citizens are slow to make complaints when it is primarily the officer's duty to do it.—American Issue.

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# A Joke on Norfolk

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## Clyde Saunders Investigating Fraud

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It looked like a huge joke to us when it developed that the investigation of alleged fraud in the second district was to be done, not at the hands of the grand jury, but at the hands of the State Democratic Committee, the most nefarious political machine in the State of Virginia, whose members hold their positions by virtue of these same fraudulent practices and who have been able to maintain themselves

(Continued on page 11)



# How the Crooks Run Richmond

## The Ring Intimidates Justices of the Peace

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VERY few people know how really desperate the ring crowd in Richmond has gotten and to what vile and dirty methods they will resort to carry their point and, when one gets into their way, to put him out of commission. As was stated in THE IDEA for two weeks ago, we had all kind of trouble in getting a Justice of the Peace to swear out a warrant for Chris. Manning, simply on the ground that the ring would ruin the man that did it. Every Justice appealed to seemed to realize his duty to swear it out but was unwilling to do it because it would hurt him. To show that they regarded it as their duty, one justice went so far as to try to get another justice to do it for us, he not being willing to do it, but realizing that it ought to be done and he ought really to do it.

Mr. Starke, who finally swore out the warrant, told us frankly that he felt he had no right as a justice to decline, but that he was sure it would hurt him as a justice and he would like to have time to consider it and asked that we wait until the following day. This we did and he, after getting advice, reported the next morning that it was going to hurt him but that he had found he had no right under his oath to decline, and so he would have to act for us.

We hated to put a man in such a position, but as it was

not a personal matter at all, but simply a matter of a justice's official duty, we felt we had a right and a duty to ask the justice to issue the warrant.

Now since the warrant was issued, we learn that Mr. Starke has been informed that he will not be re-elected at next election time, and when he asked what else he could do, he was told he should have bluffed Yoder off.

Yet Richmond people will sit back and do nothing while their government passes into the most corrupt ring that ever dominated a city, a ring that will chop off a man's official head because he dares do his duty; a ring that will ruin a man because he would not work a bluff contrary to his oath of office; a ring just as bad and as corrupt as the Norfolk gang of political thieves that have stolen elections from time immemorial.

Norfolk people, however are waking up. Richmond people prefer to sleep because so many politicians live here that everybody here has some friends enjoying the favor of the ring and it would hurt them to stop the rotten dealing.

Yes, "Ephraim is joined to his idols" but we will not let him alone.

THE IDEA'S publicity will yet start an investigation that will startle even the ring crowd itself with its disclosures.

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## Prizes for Selling Ideas

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### Six Watches Given Away

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Since by an oversight some of the announcements of the prizes did not state when the contest for the prizes for selling IDEAS would begin and close, there has resulted a misunderstanding on the part of the boys. The contest began last Saturday and continues 4 weeks. It is not too late to

enter the contest. Six handsome watches will be given away to the six boys who sell the largest number of IDEAS in the six districts outlined on the back page of the cover. Read it and get busy.

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# Big Political Meeting On Sunday

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## At Chamber of Commerce

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### Attended by the Mayor Who Makes a Speech

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It is being talked all over town that Sunday night before last at the Chamber of Commerce there was some kind of a jolly crowd, estimated at 500 strong, gathered together for pleasure at the Richmond Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Richardson is reported to have made the biggest speech of his life, not at church on this Sunday night, oh no, but with a jolly good crowd at the Chamber of Commerce.

It is hard to get an accurate account of what really went on for the participants seem to be ashamed to have it known just what was done or just what the object of the meeting was, as is evinced by the fact that the papers make no mention of the affair.

Generally when the Mayor makes a speech to a half dozen men The Times-Dispatch dilates on the eloquence of His Honor, "the mare", as they call it in Richmond. But this time all is silence, and so THE IDEA would ask for enlightenment.

Was The Supreme actually ignorant of the whole proceeding? Or were the T. D. men there "on the inside", and if they were why did not the Monday issue of the morning whitewasher give all the news? If these rumors going around are not true, then it's up to somebody to say so, or else let the public believe that the Mayor of Richmond attended a big secular meeting on Sunday.

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If you don't like THE IDEA, read the Manchester Bee. It won't hurt you, if it does Howie.

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## A JOKE ON NORFOLK

(Continued from page 7)

in power so long just simply because they have been able by fraudulent practices to sell government positions to the highest bidder.

This we say was bad enough but when Clyde Saunders, political boss of Richmond, and who by his own confession was guilty of receiving hundreds of dollars for his political influence at election time, was made a member of that committee, then the joke became so serious a one that no decent paper should have failed to give the committee the horselaugh, and yet the papers of this State feel so heavily the hand of political graft upon them, tho they all knew what kind of investigation Clyde Saunders would like to have, never dared to point out this breach of faith with the people by the State Committee.

Just think of it, Clyde Saunders of the State crooked machine investigating another part of that machine!

The political boss of Richmond investigating boss politics in Norfolk! What a farce!

If that investigating committee is of no better breed of politicians than Clyde is, then it is high time Norfolk were realizing that a beautiful coat of pure whitewash awaits their nasty fraudulent mess administered by Clyde and his pals, pastmasters at the art of electing the man the people don't want.

---

Subscribe to THE IDEA today, only two dollars a year on the weekly basis. If you don't you may miss the copy you most want. J



# Sold Nearly Three Times as Many Ideas in Evening as in Morning

## A Secret for Idea Boys

### How One Boy Makes Good Money

On a recent Saturday we told one of THE IDEA boys that if he would go out in the evening to sell IDEAS he would make more money, as most of the boys sold only a few hours in the morning and then quit, and that later in the day the men from the shops and big industrial plants who had gotten paid off at 12 o'clock would be out but could not find an IDEA, as no boys were on the streets in the afternoon. The boy was out in the morning that day and then went out again in the evening after the other boys had stopped selling, and he sold nearly 3 times as many in about 2 hours time in the evening about supper time as he sold all the morning.

Now if you want one of those watches you had better get a move on you and try Main or Broad Street karker shops in the afternoon or evenings when the other boys have stopped selling. Do you know that every Saturday afternoon men come into THE IDEA office and tell us some thing like this: "Is THE IDEA out today? I came all the way down Broad Street and did not see a boy, so came here to see if I could get one."

There are just lots of men who want IDEAS Saturday evening that can't get them because the boys stop selling them in the morning after the big rush is over and before the second rush starts in the afternoon.

## Right Shall Rule

---

Short is the triumph of evil,  
Long is the reign of right;  
The men who win  
By the aid of sin,  
The nation that rules by might,  
The party that lives by corruption,  
The trickster, the knave, the thief,  
May thrive for a time  
On the fruits of crime,  
But their seeming success is brief.

Yet know that the truth shall triumph,  
That evil shall find its doom;  
That the cause of right  
Though subdued by might,  
Shall break from the strongest tomb:  
That wrong, though it seems to triumph,  
Lasts only for a day;  
While the cause of truth  
Has eternal youth,  
And shall rule o'er the world for aye.

—Selected.

## Idea Boys

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### Driven from Street by Police

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For some time past the boys who sell IDEAS on the street have brought us complaint that police had ordered them on Saturdays while they were selling IDEAS, to leave the places at which they were accustomed to sell papers.

The action of the police in thus persecuting boys who sell IDEAS not only hurts sales at such points but it makes these boys thus persecuted loath to sell IDEAS at all, when they know it puts them "in bad" with the police, and this is quite a serious matter with small boys who have no pull or influential friends.

THE IDEA has been time and time again subjected to costly persecution by this rotten Richmond police department, all because it has dared uncover the misfeasance in office of those who run things in Richmond.

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## ON GOVERNMENT WRONGS AND HOW TO DESTROY THEM

(Continued from page 4.)

as shown by the vote for supreme judge at the last preceding general election, and filed with the secretary of state not less than four months before the election.

A referendum petition need be signed by only 5 per cent. of the voters and filed with the secretary of state within ninety days after final adjournment of the legislature which passed the bill on which the referendum is demanded. The legislature may itself refer to the people any act passed by it. The veto power of the governor does not extend to any measure referred to the people.

### STATE PUBLISHES PUBLICITY PAMPHLETS

In addition to the publicity incident to the circulation of the petitions, the law provides that the secretary of state shall, at the expense of the State, mail to every registered voter in the State a printed pamphlet containing a true copy of the title and text of each measure to be submitted to the people.

The initiative develops the electorate, placing directly upon them the responsibility for legislation enacted under its provision; the referendum elevates the legislature because of the possibility of its use in case of undesirable legislation. *Brains, ideas, and argument, rather than money, intimidation and logrolling govern the standards of legislation.*

## OREGON'S EXPERIENCE SATISFACTORY

Since that amendment was adopted, the people of Oregon have voted upon 23 measures submitted to them under the initiative, 5 submitted under the referendum, and 4 referred to the people by the legislature. Nineteen measures were submitted at one election. That the people acted intelligently is evident from the fact that in no instance has there been general dissatisfaction with the result of the vote. The measures submitted presented almost every phase of legislation, and some of them were bills of considerable length.

Results attained under direct legislation in Oregon compare so favorably with the work of a legislative assembly that an effort to repeal the initiative and referendum would be overwhelmingly defeated. No effort has ever been attempted."

## Huche Kuche at the Fair

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### Dug Gordon, Secretary

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Last year THE IDEA had occasion to censure the officers of the Fair Association for permitting vile and obscene exhibitions, Huche Kuche shows, too base to describe in this paper. The reason given for permitting these corrupting immoral plays and the wide open gambling at the fair is that the fair will not pay unless these things are permitted, and then too it happens only once a year, they say, etc. Tommy rot!

We notice that this year a police commissioner is given a paying job with the Fair Association and it is pointed out that this was done to keep the police from enforcing the law. It seems it is always profitable for business men to engage in the trade in vice and crime for gain and they go on unmolested, but if a poor woman for necessity engages in it out side of the Red Light district she is sentenced to jail and publicly branded as a criminal, as was recently done in police court with a woman on Venable Street who had not made the proper acquaintance with the police commissioners as the Mayo Street wenches have.



## Applaud McCarthy

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Ex-Mayor McCarthy made one of his characteristic speeches last Wednesday night at the Y. M. C. A., under the auspices of the Commission Government League.

Round on round of applause greeted his humorous thrusts at unprincipled politicians, whom he said were traitors and should be treated as traitors in the army are treated—shot.

The Times-Dispatch seemed to have it in so much for any clean public man that it simply said of him the next day: "Former Mayor McCarthy also discussed the Commission Government Plan."

Among other things, McCarthy said: "If the city of Richmond had held on to its water rights and street railway franchises, there would be no tax in Richmond today."

"Wipe out the city council entirely and turn all your legislative and administrative affairs over to five men and I think I can prove to any man that the city would save three hundred thousand dollars a year and I am confident the amount saved would be double that."

"It costs the city of Richmond \$500,000 annually to run the city debt of 9 million dollars."

The postmaster of Houston, Texas, spoke first and showed how his city had reduced the tax rate 10 cents each year since the plan was adopted. It started at \$2.00 and has been reduced to \$1.70 and the city has in the meantime paid all its large indebtedness and made wonderful improvements and saved money.

Postmaster Strong said that by the commission plan good men were sure to be elected because the ward political machines could not get in their dirty work, as the 5 men were elected by all and not by wards, thus the commissioners or aldermen as they are called, are not responsible to a machine but to all the people and are men of ability and integrity.

The Mayor apportions the administration of affairs among the other 4 councilmen who are responsible to him and each one has absolute and entire control over his department.

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Minetree Folkes and The Fair, two warm subjects for next week.

# MOTOR CYCLES

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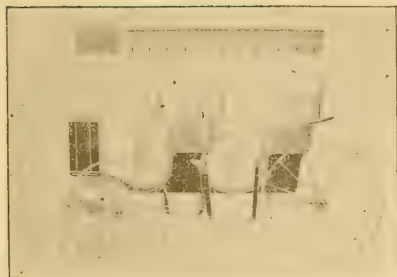
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*South Boston, Virginia*



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don't fail to call on

*Hoenniger-Sizemore Co.*

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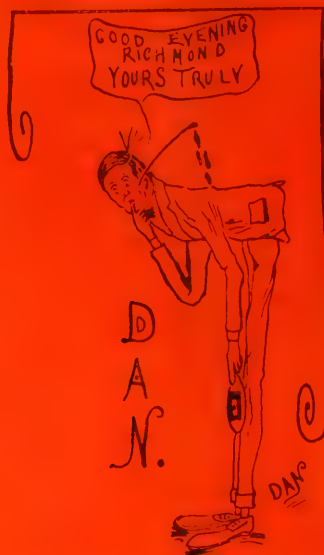
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## Dan, Cartoon Man



He has some ideas up  
sleeve and will give us a  
live cartoon every week



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## 6 WATCHES FOR BOYS



THE IDEA will give away to the six boys selling the largest number of IDEAS in their sections six handsome watches as follows:—

One watch each will be given to each of the six boys who sell the greatest number of IDEAS from the following six IDEA stations: For the 4 weeks beginning September 24th.

West End—Model News Co., 519 W. Broad  
Church Hill—Waller's Store, Jefferson and Clay  
Down Town—Idea Office, 1106 Capitol Street  
Manchester—Abbott's Store, Hull Street  
Petersburg—Jones' Store, 101 Washington  
Lynchburg—Shepherd's 900 Main Street



WEEKLY 5c THE CO. Y

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# THE IDE

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A SIGN OF THE TIMES

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Vol. IV

October 8, 1910

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# DEAD!

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Being some sermonettes published Weekly for the common good at  
Richmond, Va., by Adon A. Yoder, editor, publisher and printer  
1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Virginia.

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JEWELER J. S. JAMES OPTICIAN

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HEADQUARTERS for your sick wants; your family and toilet wants, in Drugs and Medicines

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Goods delivered anywhere in the city.

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# THE IDEA

A Sign of the Times

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VOL. IV

OCTOBER 8, 1910

No. 35

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FIVE CENTS A COPY

\$2.00 A YEAR

Published Weekly on Saturday by ADON A. YODER,

1106 Capitol Street, Richmond, Va.

Entered as second class mail matter July 10, 1909, Richmond, Virginia.

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## The Grand Jury

—  
Who They Are  
—

Two Councilmen, One Legislator,  
One Politician Who Bailed Manning  
One Close Friend of Manning's and  
Three Others

---

L. Z. MORRIS, Foreman, who bailed Manning when he was arrested recently.

E. H. FERGUSON, Councilman.

F. H. GARBER, Councilman.

A. C. HARMAN, Legislator.

W. C. CAMP, Close Friend of Manning.

A. J. DAFFRON.

LEVIN JOYNES.

R. G. RENNOLDS.

The latter three unknown to the writer.

The above is the list of the grand jurymen for the October term, called together AFTER THE IDEA had announced that it would prefer charges against C. Manning, Jr.

Notice again who they are:

First is L. Z. Morris, who went on C. Manning's bail bond when the publisher recently swore out a warrant against Mr. Manning for the offences which are now to be brought before this grand jury, and who is an officer of the Police Benevolent Association under Manning.

Next are councilmen Garber and Ferguson, and Mr. Manning admitted having received \$1000.00 from the Telephone Company at the time Clyde Saunders received about the same amount "for his influence with councilmen."

Fourth is A. C. Harmon also a member of the political ring, and who is elected by the same crooked party machinery that elects other partisans to office in Richmond.

Fifth is W. C. Camp, who admitted openly in our hearing that he could borrow \$100.00 from Manning if he wanted it, and said that "Manning isn't such a bad fellow."

Thus five out of the eight grand jurymen are either personal or political friends of Chris. Manning.

Now THE IDEA would inquire how this happened. Who packed the jury? Minetree Folkes says it's Judge Witt's business to select the jury.

The question is did Judge Witt intentionally place Manning's friends in entire control of the grand jury or did he leave this job to underlings who could be influenced to so fix a jury.

This matter is very similar to the granting of special favors by Judge Witt to an ex-convict in granting license to sell whiskey to Conway whom he himself had sent to the penitentiary, and who shot a man down in cold blood on

Broad Street, this city, and got off scot free. Did the judge do it or did he leave his duty for others to perform, and is this the reason that crooked lawyers can say to bar-keepers, "If you will pay me so much money I will see to it that you get a license to sell whiskey"?"

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## Manning Case Presented to the Grand Jury

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October 31, 1910.

To the Grand Jury of the City of Richmond:

Dear Sirs:

I desire to bring to your attention certain evidence of misdemeanor or misfeasance in office on the part of one, and perhaps more, members of the board of police commissioners of the city. If you will look into the evidence which I can furnish, you will find that Mr. Manning has testified on the witness stand that he and other members members of the board of commissioners have established two sections in this city in which houses of ill fame might exist contrary to law and that the police were instructed not to enforce the law within the indefinite confines of these two sections of the city. Chief of Police Werner corroborated the testimony of Manning to the effect that he did not enforce the law in these sections because of instructions from members of, or the whole, board and that the occupants of these houses of ill fame were required by the police department to have their pictures taken under the rules of the department and that a file of these pictures with other data concerning these women was kept by the police department on record.

This evidence is a matter of record in the hands of stenographer O. Raymond Brown of the Mutual Building, who

(Continued on page 5.)



# How the People Rule in Oregon

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## The Initiative and Referendum

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### Direct Primaries. Corrupt Practices Act. The Recall

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(Extracts from Speech by Senator Bourne of Oregon in  
the Senate, May 5, 1910.)

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#### PEOPLE INTELLIGENT AND FAIR.

The people are not only intelligent, but fair and honest. When the initiative and referendum was under consideration it was freely predicted by enemies of popular government that the power would be abused and that capitalists would not invest their money in a State where property would be subject to attacks of popular passion and temporary whims. Experience has exploded this argument. There has been no hasty or ill-advised legislation. The people act calmly and deliberately and with that spirit of fairness which always characterizes a body of men who earn their living and acquire their property by legitimate means. Corporations have not been held up and blackmailed by the people, as they often have been by legislators. "Pinch-bills" are unknown. The people of Oregon were never before more prosperous and contented than they are to-day, and never before did the State offer such an inviting field for investment of capital. Not only are two transcontinen-

tal railroads building across the State, but several interurban electric lines are under construction, and rights of way for others are in demand.

### DIRECT PRIMARY.

In my opinion the Direct Primary is the only practical method of fully securing to the people their right to choose their public servants.

### CONVENTION NOMINEE UNDER OBLIGATION TO A BOSS.

Under the convention system the members of a party delegate their power of selection of candidates to the members of a convention. To my mind this system is most pernicious, because the party electorate feels that its responsibility ceases with the selection of its convention delegates. Hence the responsibility of citizenship is weakened and shiftlessness encouraged.

### MANNING'S CASE PRESENTED TO GRAND JURY.

(Continued from page 3.)

was employed as court stenographer in the case of alleged criminal libel brought by Messrs. Manning, Gordon and Crutchfield in the police court and taken on appeal to the Hustings Court.

The testimony of Manning, Capt. Barfoot and Chief Werner in these two trials will clearly establish the guilt of Mr. Manning, and tho it is likely that the other members of the police commission at the time the instructions were given are likewise guilty still I am not aware of sufficient evidence to convict them, tho Mannirg's own testimony establishes his position.

The evidence in the trials mentioned shows that the board took no recorded official action in the case, though the controlling influences of the board had brought the proper pressure to bear on the police to keep them from their sworn duty.

As a sovereign citizen of the City and State and in the name of thousands of other such citizens I make protest to you, the representatives of the people in their sovereign capacity, against this prostitution of the arms of the State law on the part of those sworn to enforce it. (And the present police commissioners having made themselves policemen are sworn to enforce the law themselves—this they not only do not do, but they prevent the police, by reason of their appointive and dismissing power over the police, from their duty.)

Since you may be disposed to look lightly on this charge because of false newspaper reports which stated that the Commonwealth's Attorney said that there was not sufficient evidence to warrant a trial, let me state that Mr. Folkes said there was not evidence to sustain a charge of "interfering with an officer." on such a warrant, which is an entirely different matter.

The following witnesses heard the evidence in question and they on proper examination will establish the charges made: Lawyers S. S. P. Patterson and C. V. Meredith, O. Raymond Brown, C. Manning, Jr., Capt. Barfoot, Chief Werner and myself and if necessary I can furnish others.

I am very truly yours,

ADON A. YODER.

P. S. The evidence will likewise establish the fact of the guilt on the part of the Chief of Police of non-feasance in office and gross neglect of official duty and violation of his oath, and I therefore also hereby prefer this charge against Chief Louis Werner, altho the real moral crime is in the board.

Yours truly,

ADON A. YODER.

"How does it happen," inquired the stranger, "that all the improvements are being made in this one street?"

"It does not happen at all, sir," replied the guide, who was showing him about the place, majestically. "This is the street I live in. I am chairman of the street committee."—Ex.

# DEAD!

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After many trials and tribulations, facing a loss to the publisher in the last few months of about \$100.00, THE IDEA is no more to appear as a weekly publication in Richmond.

After trying every conceivable plan to hurt or destroy both this paper and its publisher, while the good people—so-called—stood by, with few kindly exceptions, consenting to its death, the enemies of THE IDEA, in the guise of friendship have succeeded at last by a dastardly trick of passing on us a worthless check which embarrassed us financially at a critical moment, in so crippling this paper that it is found absolutely necessary to discontinue publication with this issue.

While advised to call on our friends for help we have never had the nerve to ask aid for the continuance of THE IDEA because it did not seem right or proper so to do. Aid has been asked in the past in carrying on legal fights which were certainly in large measure the causes of the people against the ring.

While we personally have gratefully received from the good people of the city much help in publishing THE IDEA, it has not been solicited by us. To all who have thus helped in the cause of purity and cleanliness and law enforcement we tender our sincere thanks.

We are financially embarrassed and do not know which way to turn. THE IDEA presses and equipment, encumbered by debt, worth \$1000.00 new and now in excellent condition, are for sale at a reasonable figure. Meantime



we will continue a general printing business at the old stand, 1106 Capitol Street. If this does not pay, the publisher will look for a position at bookkeeping, at which he was employed in the People's National Bank, Lynchburg, for three years, and as head bookkeeper for a large wholesale lumber concern for two years.

We had hoped to find a hearing in peaceably ousting the rascals from the control of the happiness of the people. The people seem too blind to see and we shall have to wait to take our part in armed resistance towards which events are rapidly tho unnecessarily tending.

Parties desiring a real live lecture on "The Signs of the Times", by the publisher of THE IDEA may write for terms.

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*Wife (reading):* "Isn't this funny, my dear? Here is an article which says they have found a new species of birds in Australia which have four legs. Now, what ever do you suppose they want four legs for!"

*Husband (yawning):* "They are probably politicians, my love, and by this beautiful dispensation of their Creator they are enabled to stand on both sides of the fence at the same time."

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## A Correction

On page 2 of this issue the paragraphs concerning A. C. Harman and W. C. Camp are, we learn, incorrect, as A. C. are not the initials of the party we were informed they were. The gentleman who made the statement attributed to Mr. Camp was not on the jury.

The financial trouble of this week made us neglect correcting copy before it got into print. R. G. Rennolds is also a councilman,—making three.

# A Word for the “Human Buzzard”

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Editor of The Virginian:

Sir, —I was greatly amused at the title Mr. Manning gave to Mr. Yoder at the trial of Mr. Manning. I wonder if he realized what he was admitting when he applied the epithet “Buzzard” to Mr. Yoder. He virtually admitted that the city was full of corruption, since the buzzard is always a sign of rottenness to be removed. Had this been a clean city there would have been no attraction for the buzzard.”

We have a law protecting the buzzard-bird, since he acts as a scavenger, and removes that which if left, would poison the atmosphere and injure us physically. So also should the human buzzard be protected by law, since he is striving to do away with that which poisons both the moral and the spiritual nature.

Since we are to fear more that which can cast both soul and body into hell, than we are that which can only harm the body, let all good people unite in protecting the moral buzzards who strive to rid our city of all that can pollute the moral atmosphere.

While there is a likeness to the work of the feathered “buzzard” in what Mr. Yoder is doing, yet there is also a great dissimilarity. The buzzard-bird revels and delights in filth and corruption, and it is not for the sake of cleansing the atmosphere for the good of the human race, that he feeds so ravenously on corruption, but it is because he delights in it. Not so with Mr. Yoder, but because the evils he is attacking are repulsive to him, and as he knows to all right-minded people, with a pure unselfishness he wades into the filth, and does his best to eliminate the cor-

ruption, not because his soul delights in it, but because of the good he hopes to do others.

Would there were more who were willing to give their time and talents,

“For the cause that lacks assistance,

For the wrongs that need resistance,

For the future in the distance and the good that they may do.”

A. R. C. in Virginian.

## Vile, Obscene, Debauching, Lascivious, Lewd, Bawdy Shows, Worse than Ever at the Fair

### Richmond Business Men Sell the Virtue and Morals of the Youth for Money

If the preachers of Richmond could have heard the vile “grizzly bear” song of six city boys in short pants, standing within hearing of women and children at the fair and then heard their vulgar, indecent, vile remarks about how they were going to spend the night, we can not but believe they would preach in no uncertain tones against the vile shows which the fair association hired to make money for them.

Last year we saw for the first time one of these demoralizing shows. This year we saw and heard for the last time.

Four girls went through with the so-called muscle dance, “for men only” while a degenerate man handled the curtain and by the most unheard of remarks accentuated the vice of the actions of the base and debauching dances.

The females sang the grizzly bear song, which could not

help but have a most potent weight in starting many a young man to the vices of the red light district, while young men and boys and older men and negro women (there were a few such in the throng that stood 2 feet from the low platform) moved beyond all self-control, shouted to the muscle dancers, who occasionally held their hands before their eyes in apparent shame, in the most obscene terms and phrases it has ever been our lot to hear. The writer has gotten to the age of self-control and the events of those few minutes so burnt themselves into his memory that he can never forget the deep damnation of the scene. As he came out a plain clothes policeman went in, but the shows continued, we learn, till this time,—Friday.) All with whom we talked say that the shows are viler this year than ever, and it's all because certain rich men of Richmond, namely, Henry Fairfax, Samuel Cohen, Alfred B. Williams, L. O. Miller, O. J. Sands, Doug. Gordon and Mark Lloyd, will do for money that which violates every law of decency and morality as well as the statutes of the State, and for which parties who don't stand in would have to deservedly go to jail. Meantime the papers keep quiet and even The Virginian, "the clean paper for the home" of Wednesday afternoon had a long article telling of the delights of Wahoo lane and did not dare to warn the people against the vice which the writer of that article must have seen, to have written as he did.

The prophet of old told the King of his crimes, saying, "Thou art the man."

You, Messrs. Fairfax, Cohen, Williams, Miller, Sands, Gordon and Lloyd are the men who are guilty. You men high in the affairs of the city. You high in the church and society are guilty of what must be in the sight of God the most contemptible and heinous of sins, namely, debauching the youth of the city.

Did you see that drunk, bowing and scraping and paying court to the half dressed figure in Miller & Rhoads' window during the fair? Well, he'd just been to the Huche Kuche show and had lost his reason entirely.



## Transfer Man Fined

### Express Company's Fine Remitted

The other day Transfer Man, David W. Dawson, was arrested on side street for letting his horse stand with his head facing contrary the Ellett Ordinance, and in police court next morning was fined 5.00, altho a horse hitched to a buggy was standing near by at the same time and its owner not even reported, because according to the driver the police said it was out of his jurisdiction. On the same morning in court other fines for the same offence were remitted, especially against the Express Company, because of the foolishness of the ordinance, but when the driver asked after court to have his fine remitted too, he was told no, because he had no business asking a policeman why he did not report another violator. Such is justice in the goodly town of Richmond.

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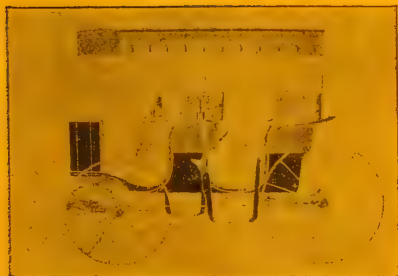
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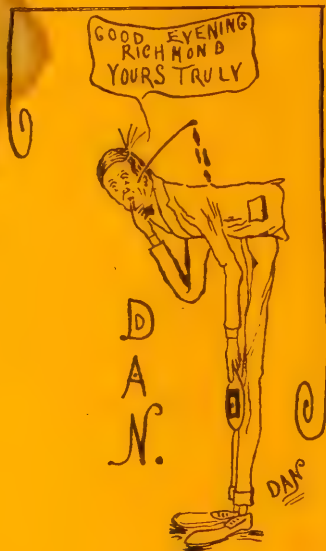
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